



# LIFE Programme

## Circular Economy and Quality of Life

*Camera di Commercio, Genova, 17.11.2021*

*Fabio Leone, Head of Sector*

*European Climate Infrastructure and Environment Executive  
Agency (CINEA)*



# Content

1. CINEA Agency
2. The new LIFE intro
3. How LIFE has helped in the past
4. CE in the new LIFE
5. Priority topics



# Welcome to CINEA



- **CINEA - the Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency** started its operations on 1 April 2021
- Combining programmes, legacies, projects and staff from two previous executive agencies - INEA and EASME
- Adding new 2021-2027 programmes



# The Agency in a nutshell



> **58 billion** for the period  
**2021-2027**



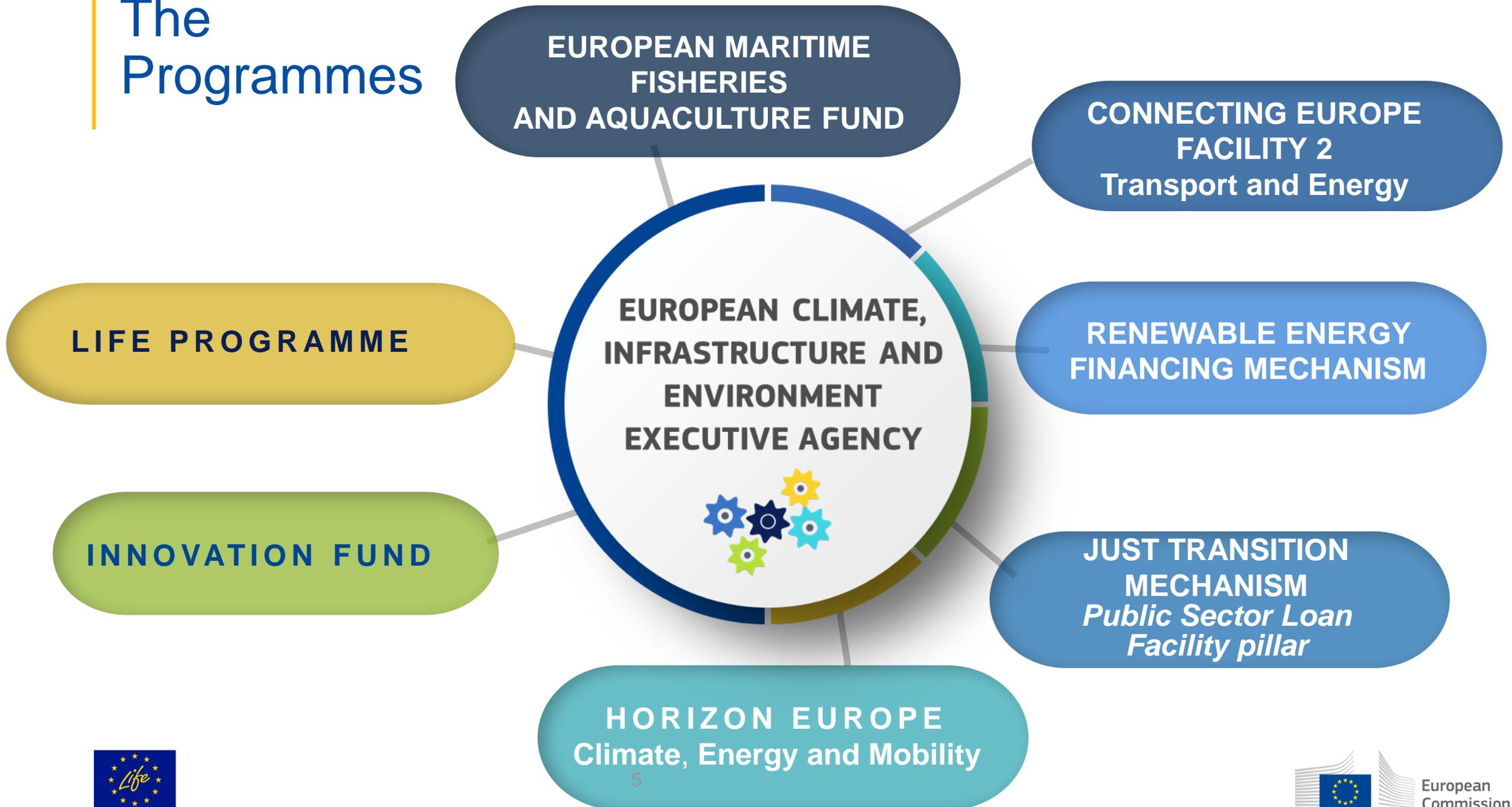
> **500 staff** by 2027



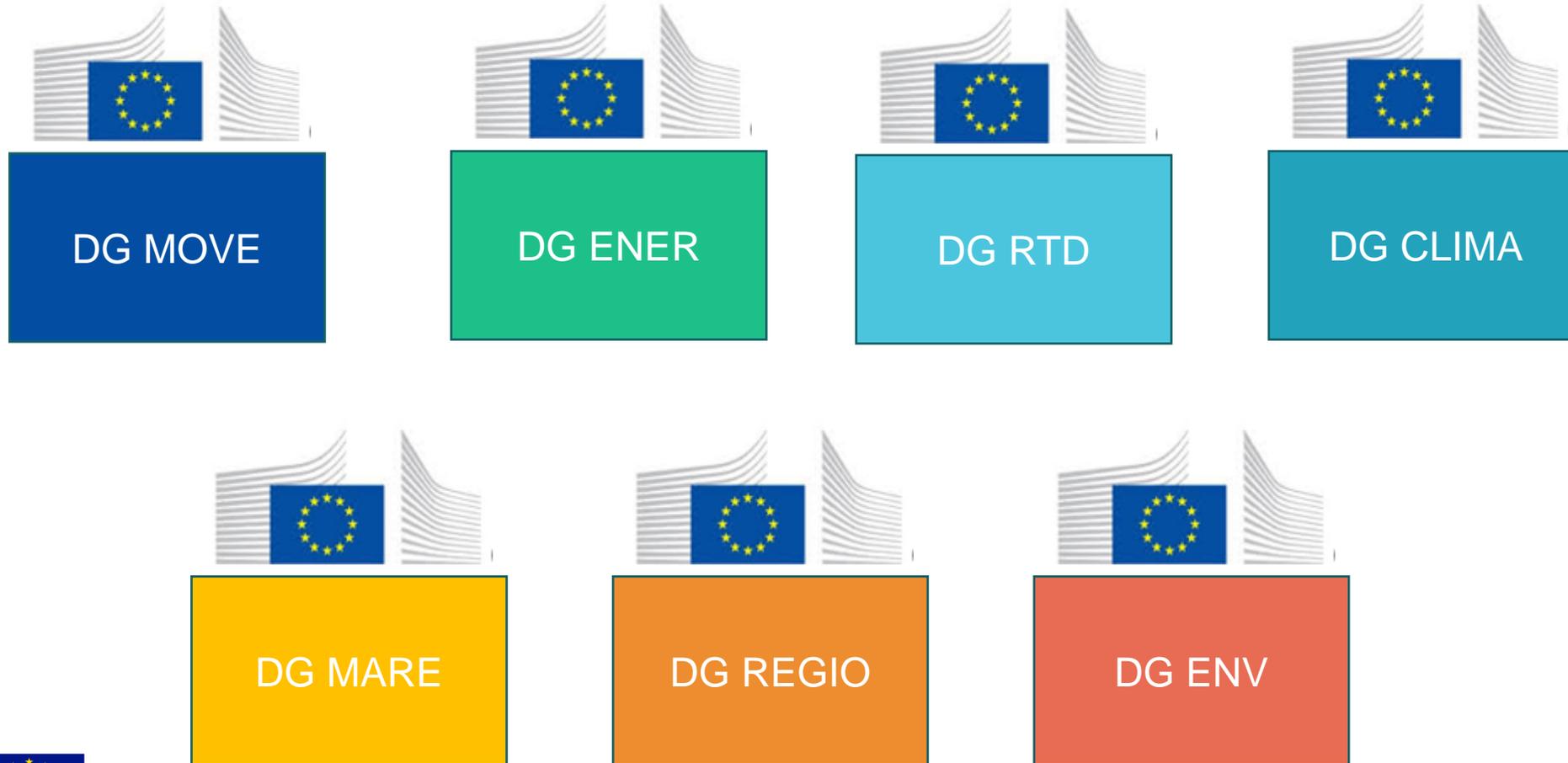
from **2800+** projects  
managed in **October**  
**2021** to > **4500**  
projects by **2027**

- **Policy feedback** as an essential part of funding activities
- **Expertise** at the service of **beneficiaries** in managing the complete lifecycle of projects
- Exploitation of **synergies** and dynamic ways to work **across programmes**

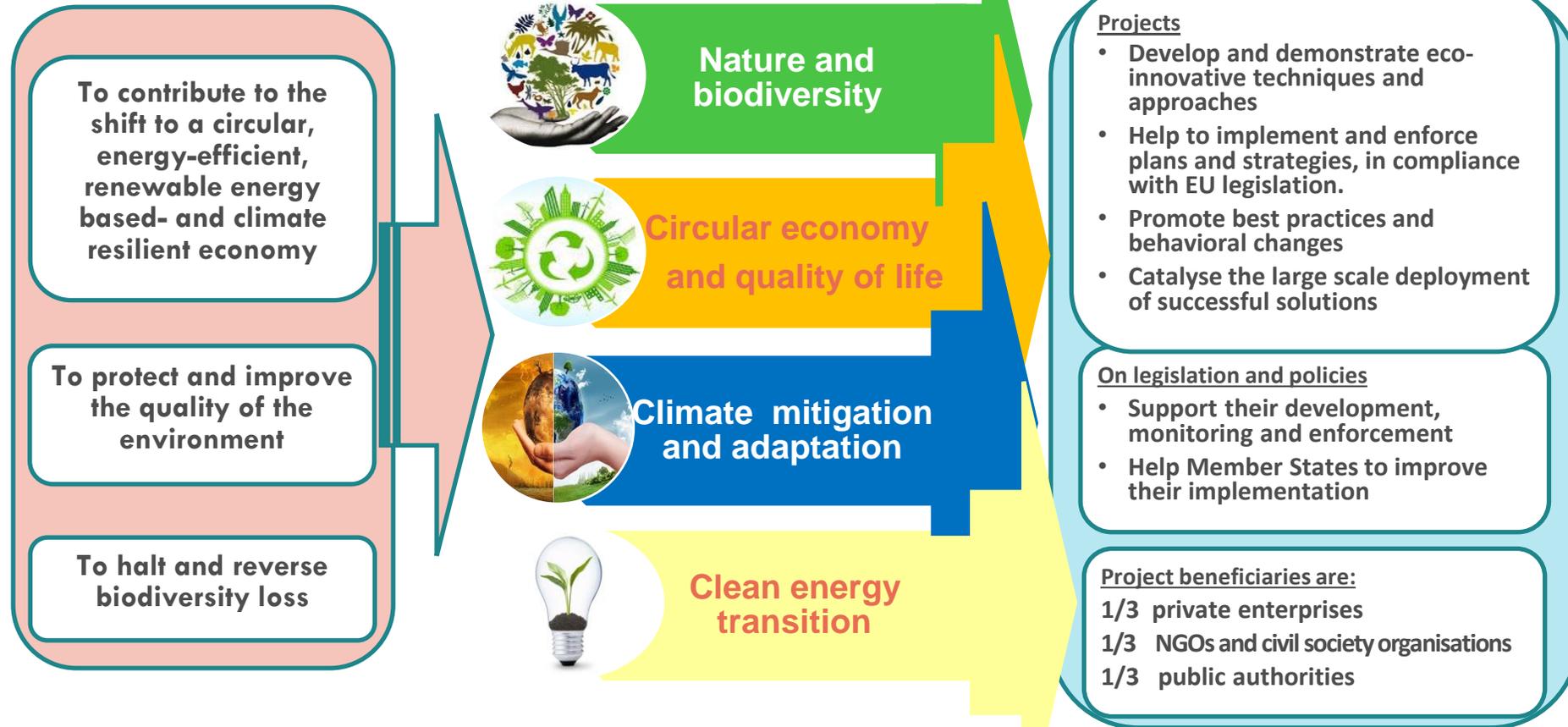
# The Programmes



# CINEA's European Commission parent DGs



# The LIFE Programme 2021-2027



- The only EU programme dedicated exclusively to the environment, nature conservation and climate action.
- For the years 2021-2027, a budget of **5.43 billion €**.
- The multiannual work programme for 2021-2024 adopted in July 2021.



# Sub-programme Circular Economy and Quality of life (CEQL)

Budget: €1.35 billion, 25% of the total LIFE budget.

## Contribution in the areas of:

**circular economy**, noise, air, chemicals, green and circular economy, industrial accidents, marine and coastal management, noise, soil, waste, water, and the urban environment.



## Typical actions

Support to public authorities and other stakeholders to implement EU environment legislation.

Support to technologies and solutions that are ready to be implemented in close-to-market conditions, at industrial or commercial scale, during the project duration.

Integrated projects beyond air, water, waste to other areas such as circular economy.  
Promote upscale and access to finance.



# Types of activities funded under LIFE

## GRANTS

- Action grants:
  - ✓ Standard action projects (SAPs)
  - ✓ Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs)
  - ✓ Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)
  - ✓ Technical Assistance (TA)
  - ✓ Other actions (OA) – including Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)
- Operating grants

## OTHER FORMS OF FUNDING

- Procurement
- Prizes
- Blending



# Standard action projects (SAPs) in the CEQL sub-programme

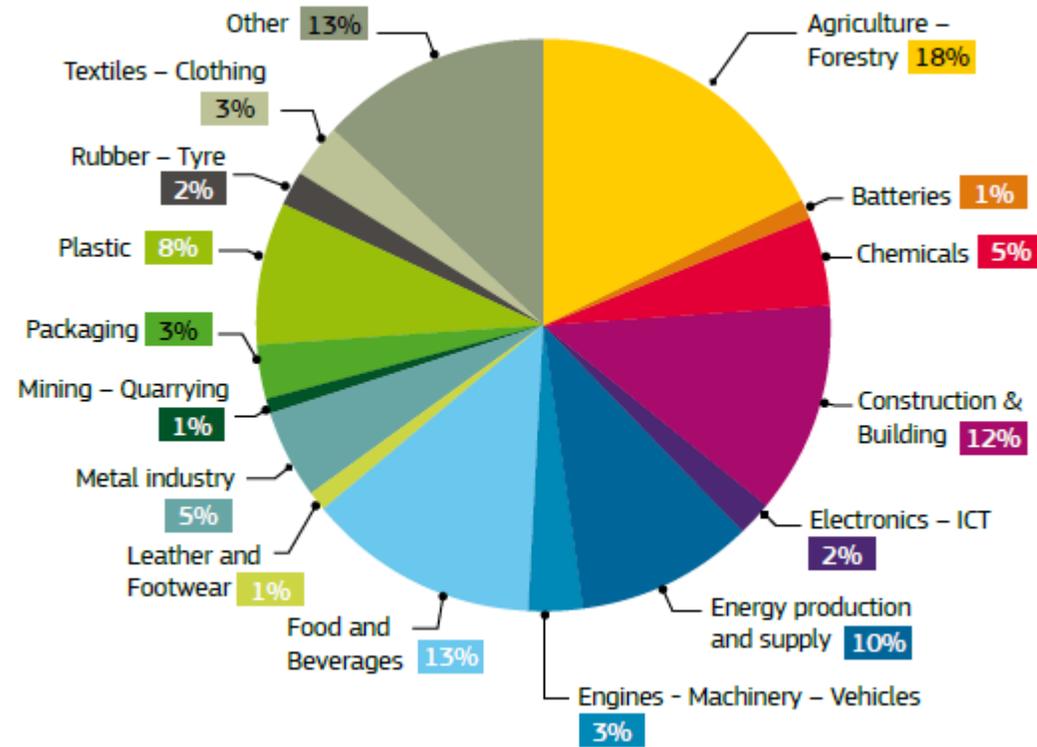
- 'SAP projects aim to:
  - ✓ develop, demonstrate and promote innovative techniques, methods and approaches;
  - ✓ contribute to the knowledge base and to the application of best practices;
  - ✓ support the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of the relevant Union legislation and policy, including by improving governance at all levels, in particular through enhancing capacities of public and private actors and the involvement of civil society;
  - ✓ catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful technical and policy related solutions for implementing the relevant Union legislation and policy by replicating results, integrating related objectives into other policies and into public and private sector practices, mobilising investment and improving access to finance
- **Co-financing rate of 60% maximum except:**
- Maximum 10 year duration
- Yearly Call for Proposals: 1<sup>st</sup> semester of each year.



# LIFE Environment – CE and Waste Overview (2014-2020)

- LIFE has been supporting circular economy-related projects since 1992 with around 700 projects on waste prevention and reduction, recycling and re-use.
- Under the 2014 – 2020 LIFE programming period, over €945 million was invested into projects supporting circular economy of which we contributed with more than €366 million in over 215 projects.

LIFE circular economy projects by sector (2014-2020)



# Priority topics in LIFE 2021-2024

- The priority topics:
  1. **CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND WASTE**
  2. **SOIL**
  3. **AIR**
  4. **NOISE**
  5. **WATER**
  6. **CHEMICALS**
  7. **NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS**
  8. **ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE**
- Assessed under Award criterion called 'Relevance'.



# CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND WASTE

## Circular Economy and the Environment

Implementation of business and consumption models or solutions to **support value chains, particularly the key product value chains set out in the new EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy**, aiming at reducing or preventing resource use and waste including one or more of the following:

- Implementation of **design for the environment solutions**, including circular design, to improve durability, reparability, reusability, upgradability, recycling and use of recycled content in new products;  
These solutions shall aim at reducing impacts holistically by considering aspects such as: life cycle approach, wide uptake of labelling, green procurement and tracking of raw materials in components and products;
- **Solutions (post-design)** to support the implementation, transfer and/or uptake **of product durability, reuse and repair, including upgrading and remanufacturing**;
- Support to the implementation, transfer and/or uptake of one or more of the following:
  - a) **Product-as-a-service solutions** and other business models or technologies to optimise asset use,
  - b) **Industrial symbiosis and creation of circular value chains**, better tracking resources and matching surplus or by-product materials or recyclable waste across industrial sectors,
  - c) **Digital product passports**.

The models and/or solutions proposed should ideally consider the environmental performance of the whole value chain, but can equally focus on any specific stage of the value chain. Projects may include, as an element, the development of data to support value chain thinking. Particular attention should be given to the involvement and active participation of SMEs.



# CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND WASTE

## Recovery of Resources from Waste

- Implementation of **innovative** solutions to support value-added recycled materials, components or products for the following areas:
  - Separate collection and recycling of **waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)** in particular but not limited to photovoltaic panels, smartphones, tablets and computers;
  - Separate collection and recycling of **batteries and accumulators**;
  - Dismantling, remanufacturing and recycling of **End of Life Vehicles (ELVs) and End-of-Life Ships**;
  - Selective separation and recycling of **construction works or buildings**;
  - Sorting and recycling of **plastics**;
  - Separate collection and recycling of **bio-waste**;
  - Separate collection and recycling of **textiles**;
  - Recycling of **composite and multilayer materials** in particular but not limited to carbon or glass fibres. Special attention should be given to face-masks used by the general public for COVID protection purposes, in such case also best practice solutions will be considered;
  - Recovering **critical raw materials** from waste
  - Sorting and recycling of **packaging**.
- Implementation of **innovative** solutions for the identification, tracking, separation, prevention and decontamination of **waste containing hazardous substances**, to enable value-added recycling of the treated waste and safe disposal of the hazardous substances or reducing the scale of the problem within the framework of the project. Special attention should be given to those substances considered as the most harmful for the environment and human health, also known as substances of concern.



# Thank you

[https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life/circular-economy-and-quality-life\\_en](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life/circular-economy-and-quality-life_en)

© European Union 2021

