



APRE

Agenzia per la Promozione
della Ricerca Europea



HORIZON EUROPE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE TEXTILE SECTOR

Horizon Europe funding opportunities and supporting services: Cluster 6 and CARE4BIO network

Serena Borgna - APRE

The structure



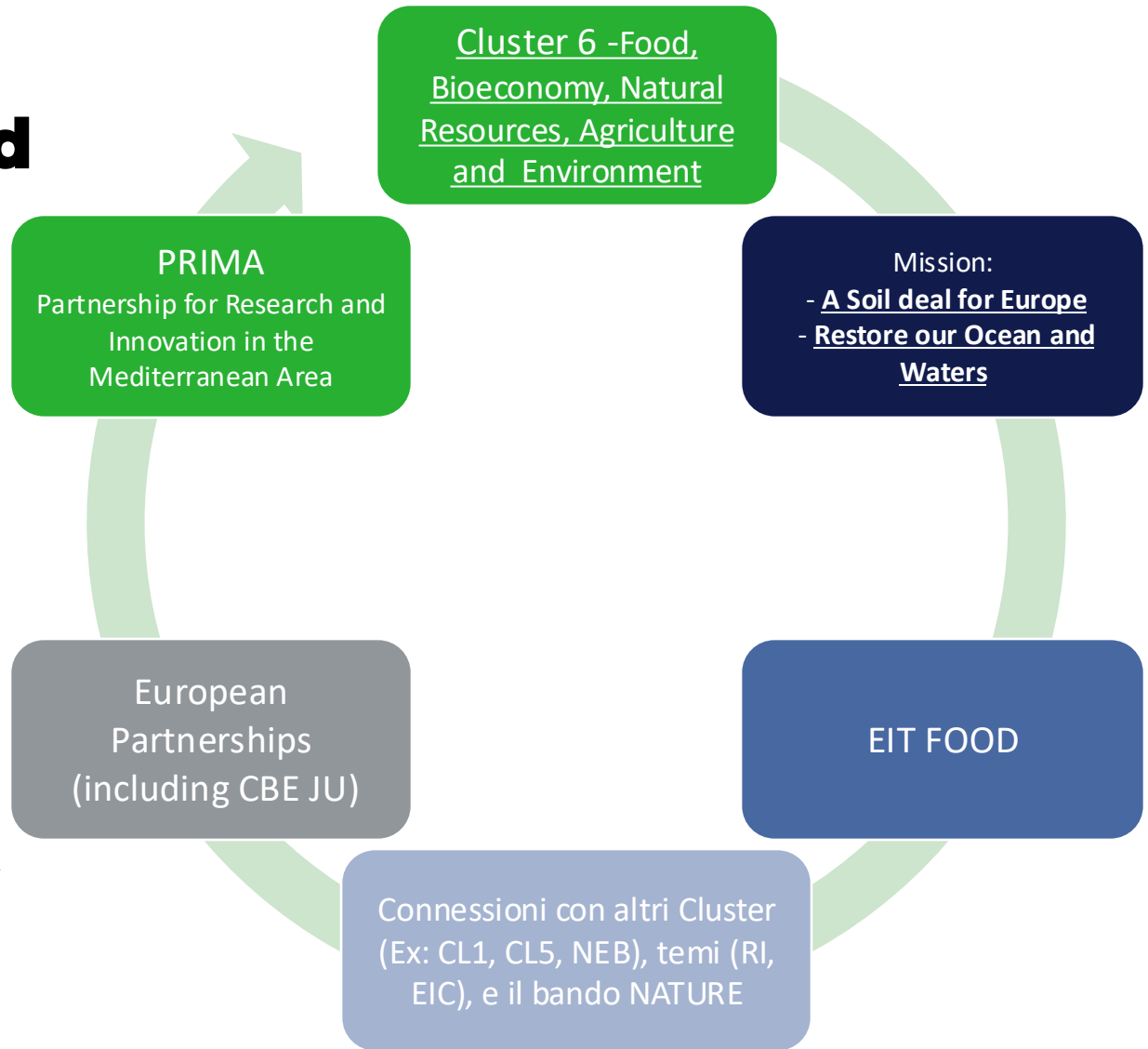
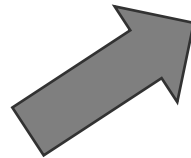
EU MISSIONS

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS

Around Cluster 6: Food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment



Circular Bio Based
Europe
EU institutionalised
partnership



From Expected Impacts to Destinations

Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2025-2027

Impact 27 Fostering mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in areas and sectors covered by CL6

Impact 28 Putting biodiversity on a path to recovery, and protecting and restoring ecosystems and their services

Impact 29 Achieving healthy soils and forests, clean air, fresh and marine water, whilst ensuring water resilience and **the transition to a clean, competitive and circular economy and sustainable bioeconomy**

Impact 30 Ensuring healthy food and nutrition security by making agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and food systems sustainable, resilient, inclusive and within planetary boundaries

Impact 31 Sustainably developing rural, urban and coastal areas

Impact 32 Developing innovative governance models and tools enabling sustainability and resilience

Cluster 6 Work Programmes (2021-2027)

• **Destination 5:** Land, oceans and water for climate action

• **Destination 1:** Biodiversity and ecosystem services

• **Destination 3:** Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors

• **Destination 4:** Clean environment and zero pollution

• **Destination 2:** Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption

• **Destination 6:** Resilient, inclusive, healthy and green rural, coastal and urban communities

• **Destination 7:** Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal

CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND BIOECONOMY SECTORS



POLICY CONTEXT

- European Green Deal
- Clean Industrial Deal
- Circular Economy Act (upcoming)
- Circular Economy Action Plan
- Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation
- Start-up Scale-up Strategy
- Communication on Biotechnologies and Biomanufacturing
- EU Biotech Act (upcoming)
- European Life Sciences Strategy
- European Ocean Pact
- New Bioeconomy Strategy
- New European Bauhaus, CAP, Nature Restoration Regulation
- Vision for Agriculture and Food



STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2027

Calls should ensure that we are ***“Achieving healthy soils and forests, as well as clean air, fresh and marine water, whilst ensuring water resilience and the transition to a clean, competitive and circular economy and sustainable bioeconomy”***

CL6 - Destinations

Destination #1 “Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services” Supports the recovery and restoration of ecosystems through the sustainable management of soil, inland waters and marine environments, protecting their integrity and fostering cross-sectoral integration.

Destination #2 “Fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food systems from primary production to consumption” Helps guide and accelerate the transition towards sustainable, safe, healthy and inclusive food systems, from producers to consumers, while ensuring food security.

Destination #3 “Circular economy and bioeconomy sectors” Supports circular solutions driven by climate neutrality and the bioeconomy to generate integrated and safe territorial and cross-sectoral approaches.

Destination #4 “Clean environment and zero pollution” Stops and prevents pollution by supporting R&I actions on inland and marine waters, soil, and air—including nitrogen and phosphorus emissions—as well as on the environmental performance and sustainability of processes in bio-based systems.

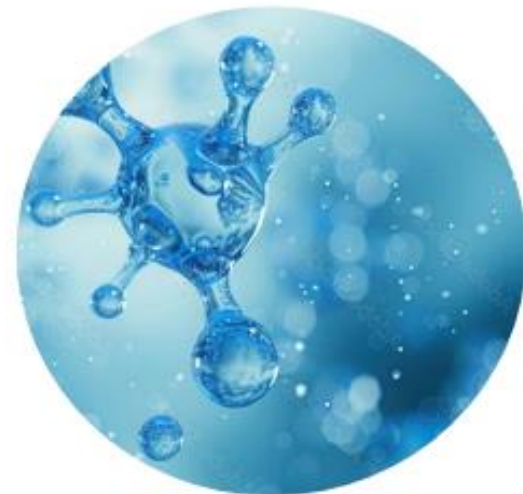
CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND BIOECONOMY SECTORS



**Enabling a circular
economy transition**



**Innovating for
sustainable bio-based
systems,
biotechnology and the
bioeconomy**



**Innovating for blue
bioeconomy and
biotechnology value
chains**

Textile in Cluster 6 – 2021-2027

HORIZON-CL6-2023-CIRCBIO-02-2	Novel, sustainable and circular bio-based textiles
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-02	Advancing recycling technologies for mixed post-consumer textiles waste from blended products
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-04	Demonstrating and deploying innovative collection, sorting-for-reuse and repair systems for textiles at city/region level
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-07	Advancing the European bio-based innovation enabled by biotechnology and biomanufacturing concepts
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-08	Supporting pre-normative research for standardization of the bio-based products
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-09	Balancing food security, bioeconomy, climate and biodiversity objectives to unlock sustainable value chains
HORIZON-CL6-2026-01-CIRCBIO-10	Bio-based innovation in society: supporting the sustainable way of living

Deadline: Sept 2026

Textile in Cluster 6 – 2021-2027

HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-04	Capacity building for extending product lifecycles through repair and refurbishment
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-05	Innovative circular solutions for end-of-life footwear through collection, sorting and recycling
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-09	Increasing the circularity of bio-based sector: upcycling and recycling for higher value and environmental benefits
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-01-two-stage	Deploying circular systemic solutions through living labs in cities and regions (CCRI)
HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-CIRCBIO-02-two-stage	Using CCRI to strengthen urban manufacturing (Clean Industrial Deal)

Deadline: 22 Sep 2027

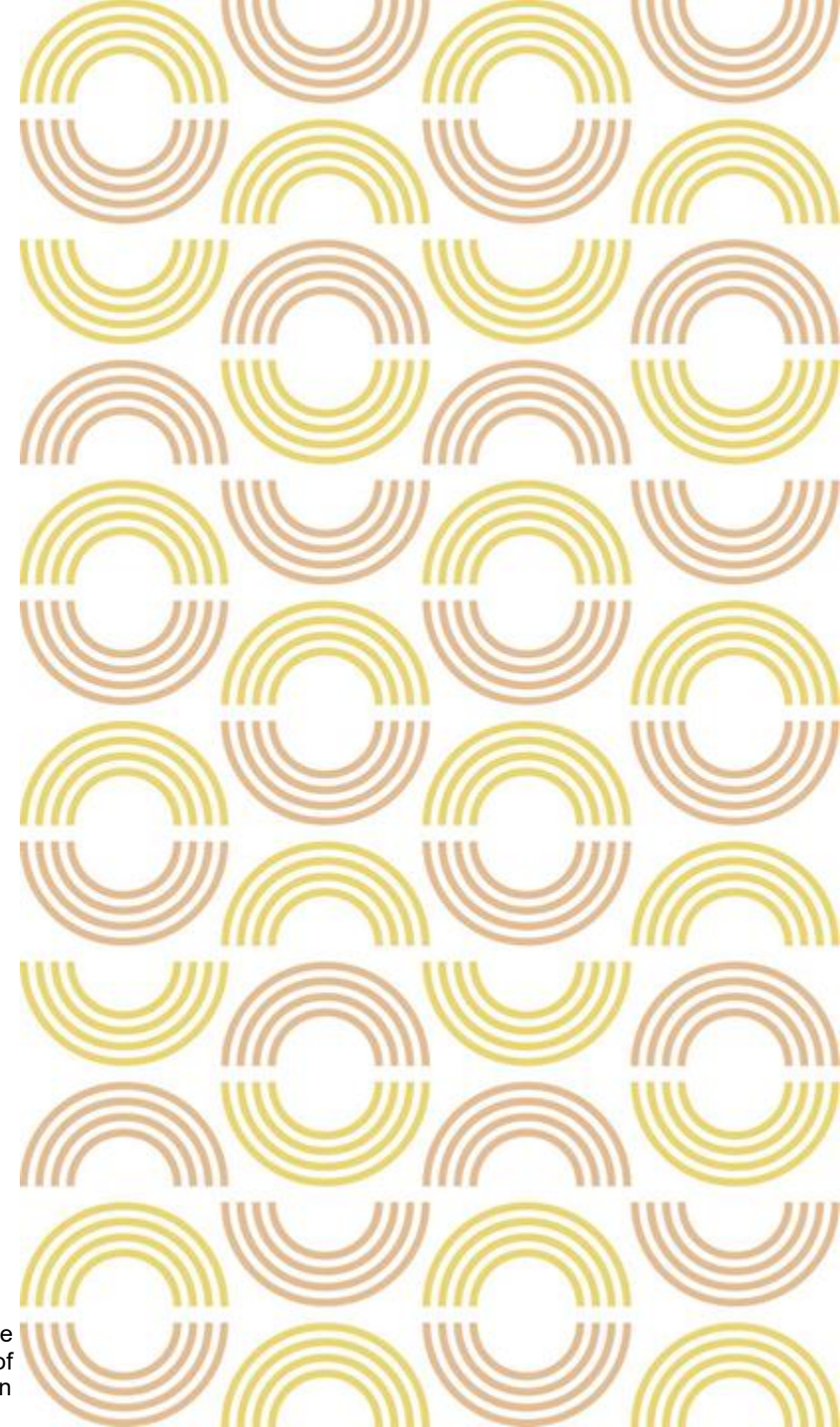
Deadline: 11 May 2027

Textile in Cluster 6 – Some projects funded 2021-2024

EPR & circular
governance



Network of National Contact Points for Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment



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The need for CARE4BIO

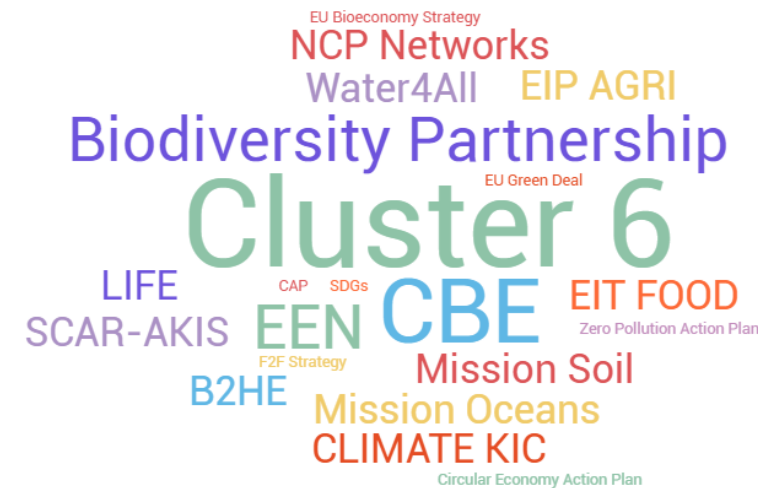
EU funded project for National Contact Points of Cluster 6, following the EC's identified need to have more informed and connected **NCPs** that can offer added value services to Cluster 6 **participants**, while keeping the **ecosystem** and the **EC** informed about different aspects of the programme



Challenges and goals for CARE4BIO

- Cluster 6 - cross disciplinary, cross sectoral, cross policy
- New initiatives – Missions / Partnerships
- Always growing R&I ecosystem

Our Ecosystem



Support to National Contact Points

Activities dedicated to Cluster 6 NCPs

- Support of newcomer NCPs
 - **Development of welcome and info package for newcomer NCPs**
 - **Guide for newcomer NCPs on “How to advise clients”**
 - **EEN-NCP collaboration booklet**

} Get started as a new cluster 6 NCP [2025 update](#)
- Best practices for NCPs
 - **Six (online) ‘experience exchange’ events ([See here](#) the 2 completed)**
 - **integrated’ best practices guide ([See here](#) the 2024 update)**
 - **annotated proposal templates ([See here](#) the 2025 update)**

} Content useful for NCPs but also applicants
- Development of an NCP training curriculum
 - **training plan that will be reviewed and updated on a yearly basis**

} Updated for the years 2025-2027 (NCP survey)
- Virtual / Interactive training sessions for NCPs
 - **minimum of 2 training activities (one virtual and one interactive)/ year**

} Content of previous events [here](#)

Annotated proposal templates (useful also for CBE proposals)

- [CARE4BIO RIA IA Annotated Template](#)
- [CARE4BIO RIA IA_1st stage Annotated Template](#)
- [CARE4BIO CSA Annotated Template](#)
- [CARE4BIO CSA_1st stage Annotated Template](#)

Here you will find annotated proposal templates for both first stage and full proposals for Research and Innovation Actions (RIA) / Innovation Actions (IA) and Coordination and Support Actions (CSA). The comments are intended to provide guidance to applicants and are based on the current knowledge of Cluster 6 NCPs.

Support to Cluster 6 Applicants

Activities dedicated to Cluster 6 applicants

- Widening strategies
 - **Development of recommendations to lower the entrance barriers of the target groups (widening/newcomers/less active countries)**
 - Brokerage events/ Matchmaking activities
 - **Organisation of 5 annual international brokerage events**
 - **up to 250 participants**
 - **Online & onsite**
 - Trainings for applicants
 - **Training curriculum for applicants** (update 2025, based on survey to applicants)
 - **2 training activities (one online and one physically) per year**
 - Online awareness raising events for applicants
 - **3 informative sessions per year**
- 2026 update, Action Plan with recommendations across all CARE4BIO activities
- [2023 event](#)
[2024 event](#)
[2025 event](#)
[2026 event](#)
2027 event: soon available for 2027 calls (January)
- Onsite trainings: interactive
Online trainings: [past events](#)
- Online trainings in our [YouTube channel](#)

Task 2.3 - Trainings for applicants

- What is and how to include multi-actor approach (MAA) in proposals - December 2023, online
- How to approach a successful proposal in CBE JU – April 2024, Brussels
- Partnerships related to cluster 6 – June 2024, online
- How to approach a successful proposal in CBE JU – April 2025, Brussels
- How approach Cluster 6 funding opportunities with experiences from Widening Countries - May 2025, Warsaw
- Horizon Europe: How to find project partners – Jan 2026, Brussels

...More to come! Stay tuned!

Task Leader: APRE

Serena Borgna (borgna@apre.it)

Task 2.4 - Online awareness raising events for applicants

- 1st: 30 March 2023 – [CARE4BIO Awareness raising event. Get to know us!](#)
- 2nd: 4 Dec 2023 - [How apply the multi actor approach in cluster 6 proposals](#)
- 3rd: 23 Jan 2024 - [CARE4BIO information session about JRC in Cluster 6](#)
- 4th: 15 April 2025 - [CARE4BIO information session on how to prepare on a Cluster 6 brokerage event](#)
- These are informative sessions for applicants that will be organised and shared in the project's [YouTube channel](#).
- They can have different formats.

Task Leader: MESRI

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Olivier Marco (olivier.marco@recherche.gouv.fr)

Synergies with Key Stakeholders

Activities dedicated to synergies with key stakeholders

- Cooperation with other NCP networks
 - **Identification of relevant NCP networks**
 - **Updated until the end of the project**

} Joint activities with 10 networks so far...
- Cooperation with Enterprize Europe Network
 - **MoU with relevant Sector Groups**
 - **EEN-NCP booklet**
 - **Joint events/webinars/seminars**

} Joint activities with 10 networks so far...
- Policy Communication
 - **Online database of policies/directives (yearly update)**
 - **2-way Policy Communication (based on Work Programme timeline)**

} [Policy database update 2025](#)
- Synergies with key stakeholders
 - **Stakeholders map (2-year updates)**
 - **Collaboration with key stakeholders**

} Updated [2025 stakeholders map](#)
Active collaboration with communication channels, participation on events etc.



“

CARE4BIO - Tools



CARE4BIO website: www.care4bio.eu

Website header and main content area for CARE4BIO.

Header:

- Menu icon and "menu" text.
- HE NCP PORTAL logo.
- Location: "Evropi-Sofia" with a calendar icon and a search icon.
- Large CARE4BIO logo on the right.

Sub-header:

NCP Portal / Cluster 6

Navigation Bar:

- CARE4BIO logo.
- in (LinkedIn icon), (YouTube icon), X (Twitter icon), and "Contact" with a dropdown arrow.

Main Navigation:

CARE4BIO ▾ Find your NCP Activities ▾ News Library Tools Funding opportunities Subscribe to newsletter!

Main Content:

CARE4BIO is the NCP network for cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment.

Cluster 6
**FOOD, BIOECONOMY,
NATURAL RESOURCES,
AGRICULTURE &
ENVIRONMENT**

A colorful illustration depicting various activities related to food, bioeconomy, and agriculture. It shows a boat on water, a person fishing, a person working in a field, a person sitting at a table, and a person standing next to a large plant.

CARE4BIO is here to service your specific needs in all matters related to proposal preparation Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment.

Here you will find valuable information, material, seminars, workshops and contact information all in one place.

CARE4BIO site will keep its audience well informed on all publications & news items related to Cluster 6 from the European Commission.

Bookmark this page to stay engaged and don't forget to sign up for the newsletter!






Evropi-Sofia




CARE4BIO

in


Contact

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Cluster 6 calendar

<
>
today

May 2025

month
day

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	EU CAP Network brokerage event Transforming Our Future: Sustainability and beyond - for a Gre					
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
EU Innovation Journey'25						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	FOODPathS Festival: Building tomorrow's Sustainable Food Systems together Cluster 6 Information Days					
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	5TH GLOBAL CONFERENCE OF THE SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS PROGRAMME CARE4BIO Brokerage Event in	09:15 am How approach Clus				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Accelerating Transformation: Advancing Resilience in Food Sy					

● Training
● Event
● NCP-only training

CARE4BIO website: www.care4bio.eu



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Funding opportunities

Take a look at the Stakeholders Map [here](#).

It provides an overview of the Cluster 6 direct and wider environment and collects stakeholders such as respective Missions and European Partnerships, relevant synergistic programmes and projects like EIP Agri, LIFE, EIT-KICs, COST, EJP Soil, JRC, LEARLearn and other key initiatives funded within the work programme of Cluster 6.

Cluster 6
FOOD, BIOECONOMY,
NATURAL RESOURCES,
AGRICULTURE &
ENVIRONMENT



Cluster 6: Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment

The cluster aims at reducing environmental degradation, halting and reversing the decline of biodiversity on land, inland waters and sea and better managing natural resources through transformative changes of the economy and society in both urban and rural areas.

Areas of intervention:

- environmental observation
- biodiversity and natural resources
- agriculture, forestry and rural areas
- seas, oceans and inland waters
- food systems
- bio-based innovation systems in the EU's bioeconomy
- circular systems

Cluster 6 details

European Partnerships



Partnerships

Within cluster 6 there are 8 partnerships. They bring European Commission and private and/or public partners together to address some of Europe's most pressing challenges through concerted research and innovation initiatives.

EU Missions



EU Missions

EU Missions are a new way of bringing concrete solutions to some of our greatest challenges. They have ambitious goals and will deliver concrete results by 2030. They will deliver impact by putting research and innovation into a new role, combined with new forms of governance and collaboration,...

Other Programs



Other EU funding programs related to cluster 6, including LIFE, PRIMA, EIT Food and more

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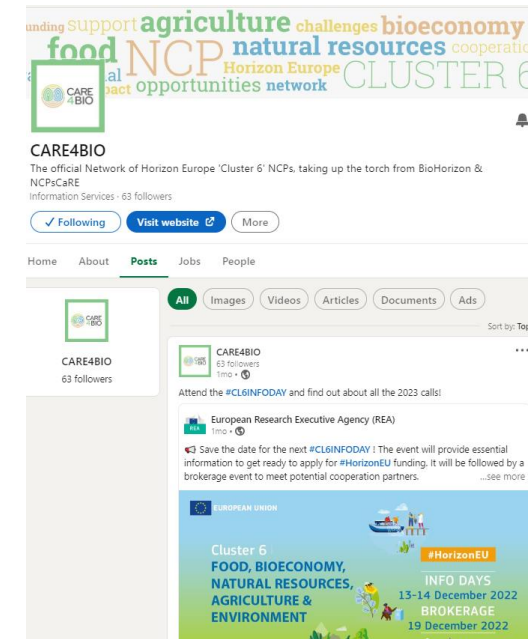
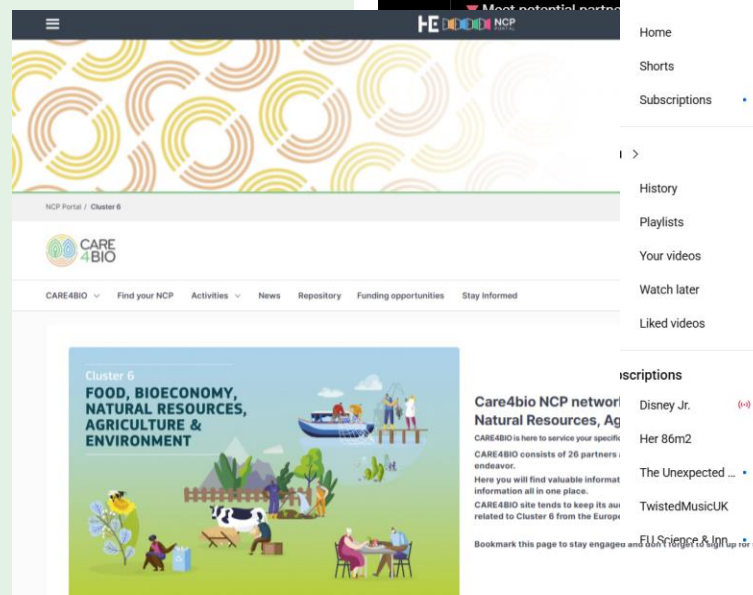
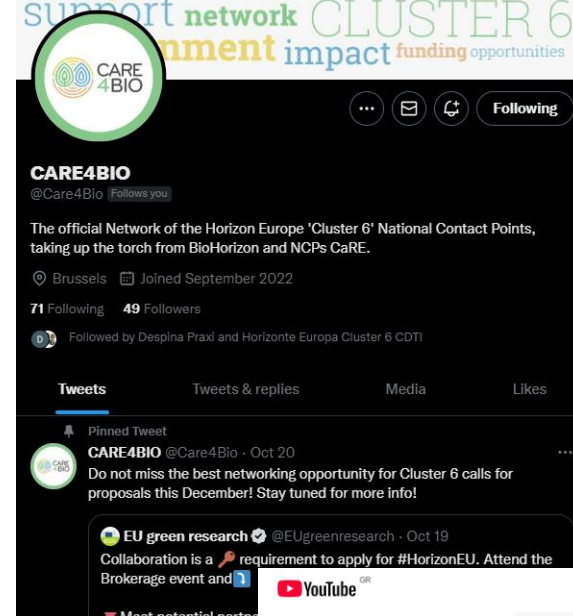
Horizon Europe NCP Portal

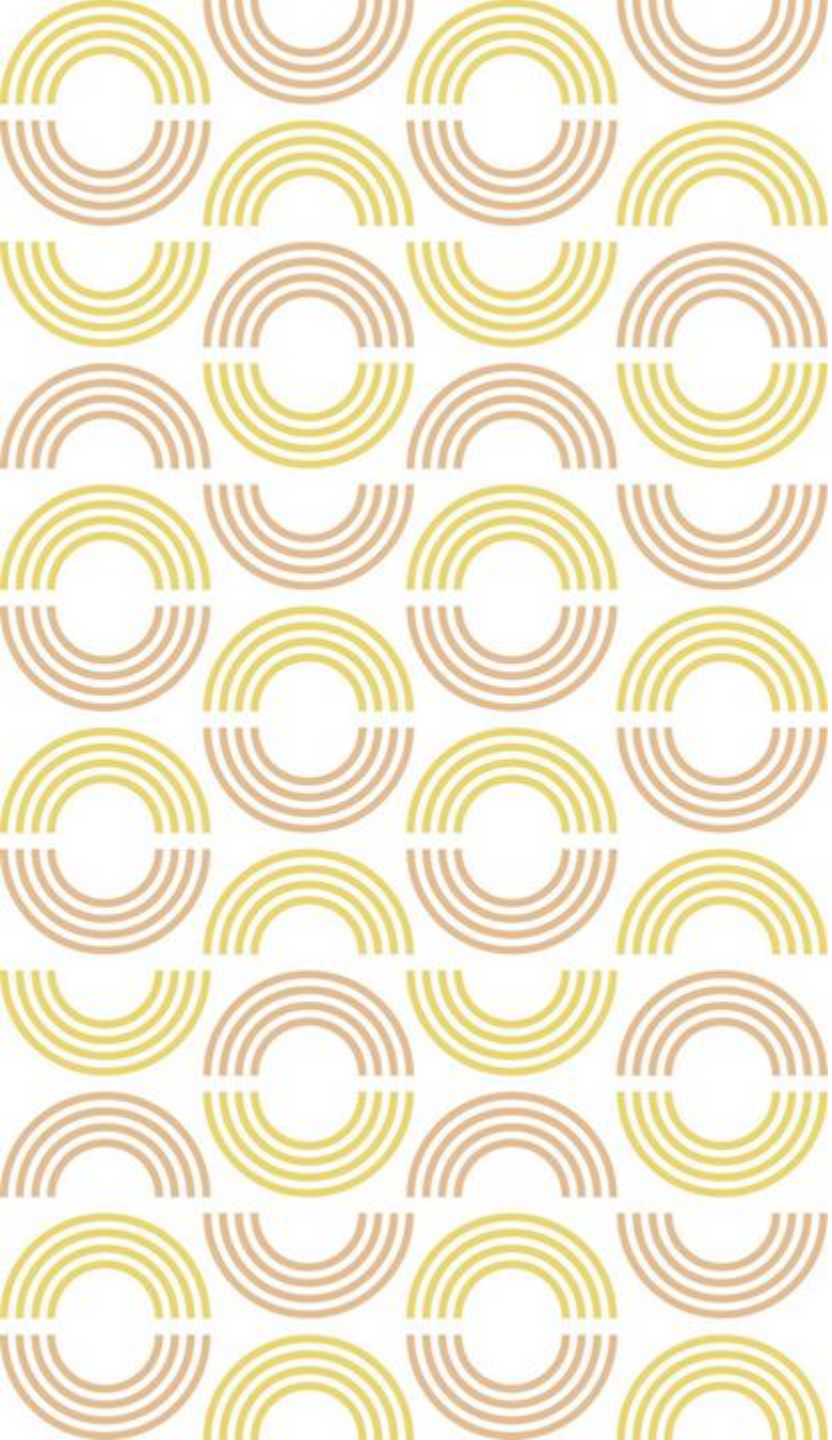
Contact

Training

Communication and Dissemination activities

- Internal and External Newsletters
=> [sign up](#) for our newsletter!
- Website: www.care4bio.eu
- Social media accounts
 - [LinkedIn](#)
 - [Twitter](#)
 - [YouTube](#)





Thank You!



Serena Borgna, APRE, CARE4Bio partner

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