



## PRESS RELEASE

### **BIC Launches New Report to Help Bioeconomy Projects Access Finance**

**Brussels, 14 December 2017** – The Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC) has released a new overview of financial instruments available to support European bioeconomy development.

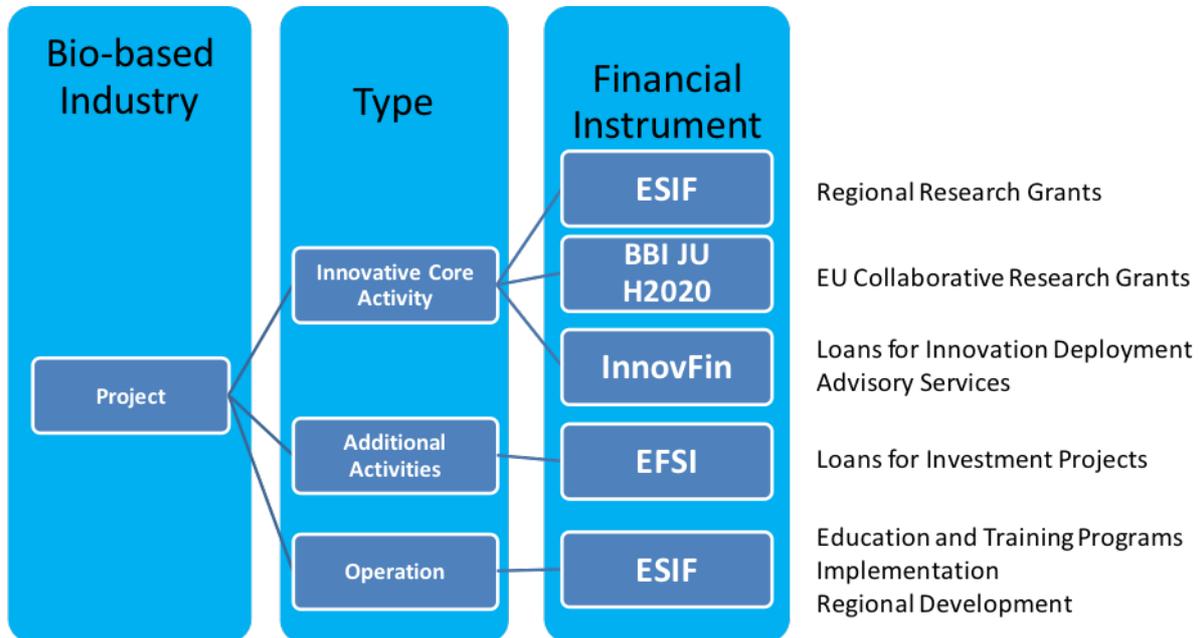
'Access to EU financial instruments suitable for the implementation of large bio-based industry investments' outlines a range of funding opportunities and explores the synergies between different instruments for co-financing bio-based projects.

Since BIC's 2014 report 'Combining BBI (H2020) and European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)', the funding landscape for bio-based projects has evolved. The European Commission launched the Juncker Plan in 2015 and the European Investment Bank (EIB) published a 'Study on Access to Finance' in June 2017, which was compiled in close collaboration with BIC and its members and discusses the barriers and opportunities for bioeconomy investments. The EIB and the European Commission have recently pledged a stronger commitment to the European circular economy and bioeconomy sectors through a set of actions aiming to facilitate access to finance.

BIC's latest report factors in these new changes and raises awareness of the EU instruments available today for supporting bio-based ventures, especially for demonstration and flagship investments. EU financial instruments discussed include BBI JU/Horizon 2020 grants, EIB/InnovFin, the European Fund for Structural Investments (EFSI), European Structural and the Investment Funds (ESIF) and the recently announced Circular Bioeconomy Thematic Investment Platform (TIP). The report also includes information on other sources of funding such as the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Dirk Carrez, Executive Director of the Bio-based Industries (BIC) said, "Bioeconomy investments are crucial to reduce Europe's dependence on non-renewable resources and to make our economy more sustainable. BIC's report is a practical guide for anyone looking to invest in the bioeconomy, providing a breakdown of applicable instruments and co-funding opportunities, ranging from debt and equity to quasi-equity financing and grants. BIC continues to provide its members with vital information on how to access capital and mobilise investment in bio-based developments."

[Download the report here](#)



EBRD has a range of programmes which can support all of the activities above.

### **About the Bio-based Industries Consortium**

The Bio-based Industries Consortium (BIC) is a non-profit organisation based in Brussels. It represents the private sector in a public-private partnership (PPP) with the EU on Bio-based Industries (BBI). Worth €3.7 billion, the partnership mobilises investment in innovative facilities and processes that manufacture high-quality bio-based products as well as in biorefining research and demonstration projects.

BIC is host to a unique mix of sectors that currently covers agriculture, agro-food, forestry, pulp and paper, chemicals, energy and other manufacturing sectors. With over 200 members including large companies, SMEs, SME Clusters, RTOs, universities, technology platforms and associations spread across Europe, BIC brings together an authoritative pool of cross sector and multi-disciplinary expertise in the field of bio-based industries.

<http://biconsortium.eu>

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