



# CINEA

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

**Di-PEGASUS** kick-off meeting

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

*Georgios BAMPANIS*

*Project officer*

*C3 – Horizon Europe Transport unit*

*Department C Green Research and Innovation*

# Agenda

1 General overview on EC / CINEA / Horizon Europe

2 Your grant agreement: how it works

3 What we expect from you

# 1. General overview on EC / CINEA / Horizon Europe

# EU Players



# Who does what?

## European Commission

### Defines policy

- Defines strategy, objectives and priority areas/work programmes
- Selects projects for co-financing
- Makes programme decisions
- Evaluates the programme and the agency's performance

## CINEA

### Turns policy into action

- Organises calls for proposals
- Manages project life-cycle
- Monitors technical and financial implementation of the projects
- Ensures sound financial management

# The agency in a nutshell



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



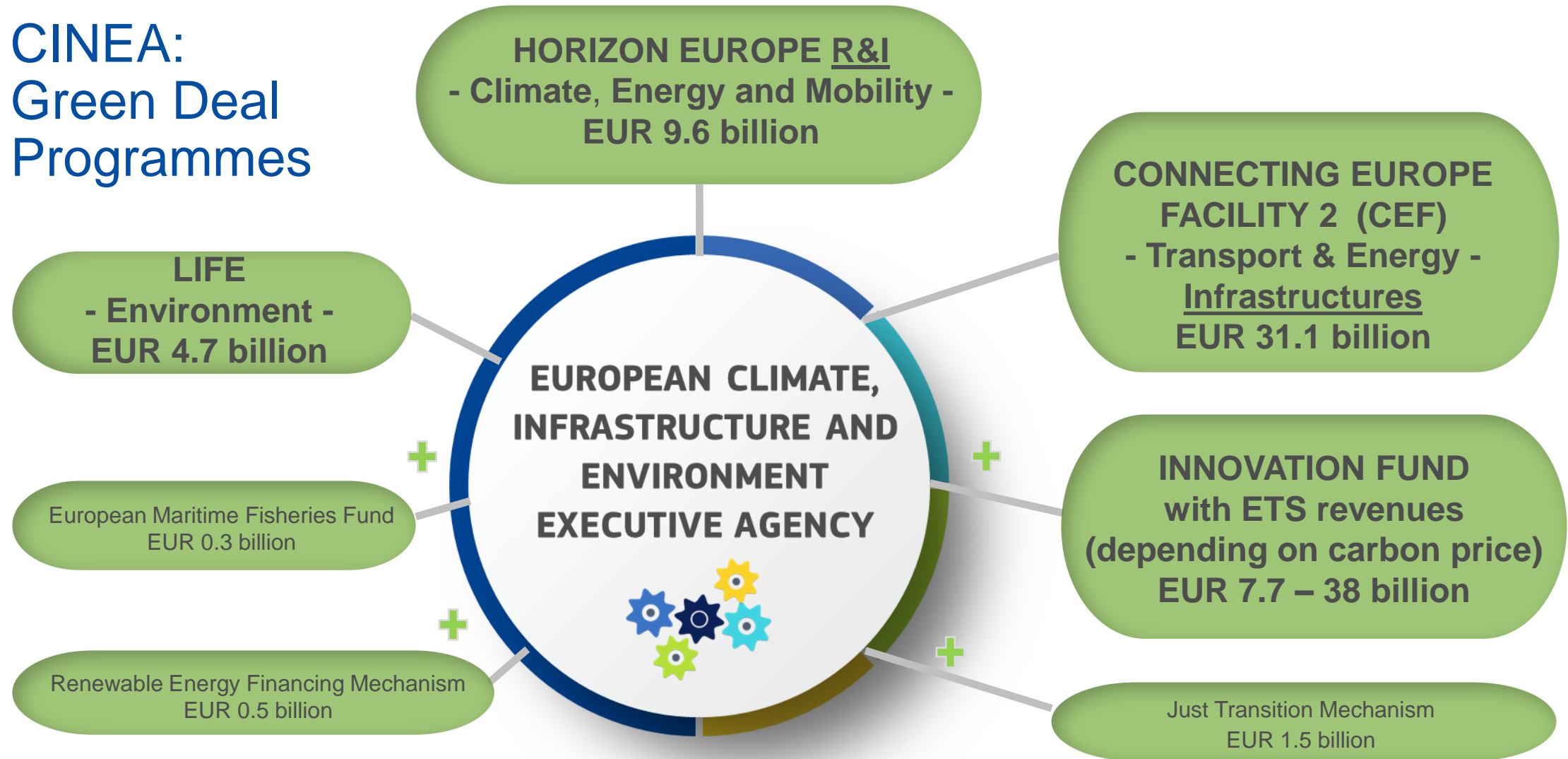
> **500 staff** by 2027



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**

# CINEA: Green Deal Programmes



> 500 staff by 2027

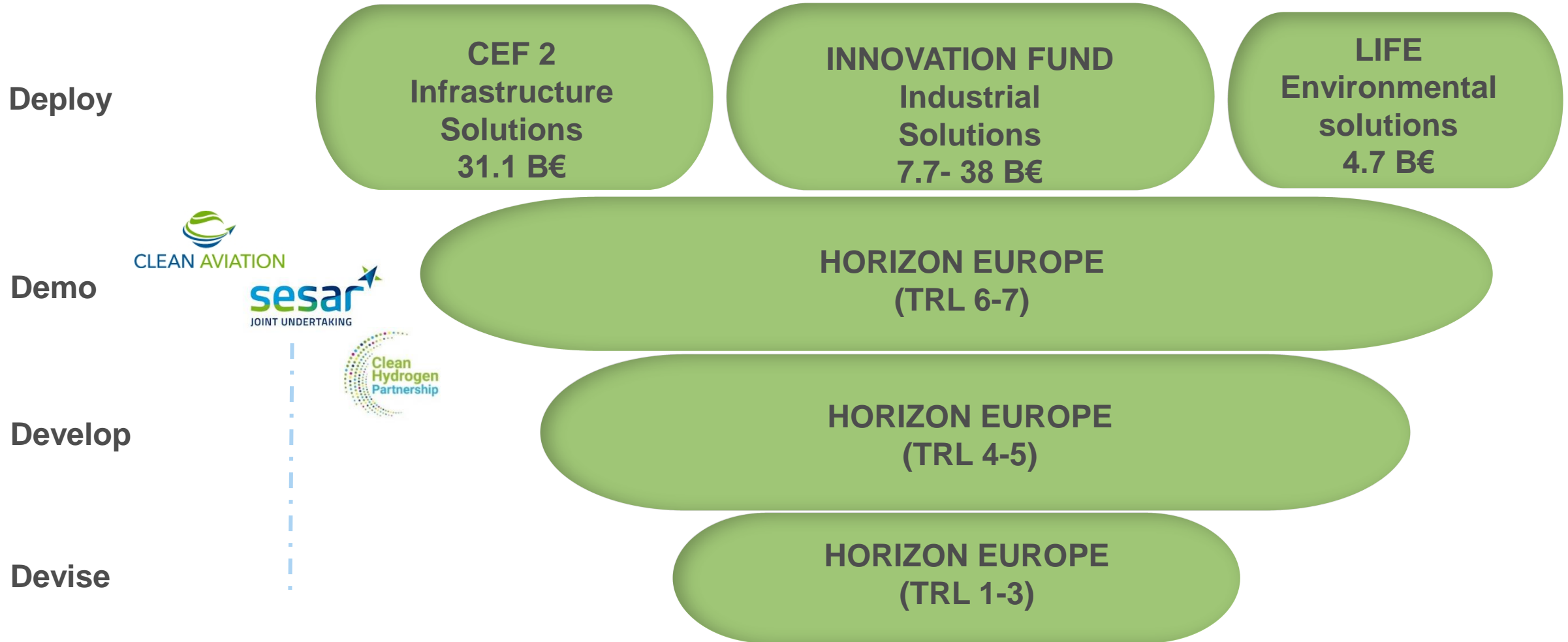


From 2800+ projects managed in 2021 to > 4500 projects in 2027



> 55.4 billion (2021-2027)

# 2021-27: CINEA aligning programmes to deliver solutions



Examples: [cinea.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-06/Exploitation\\_success\\_stories\\_H2020-2020\\_rev.pdf](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-06/Exploitation_success_stories_H2020-2020_rev.pdf)

# CINEA deployment - Aviation examples

## Connecting Europe Facility (not only trans-EU corridors)

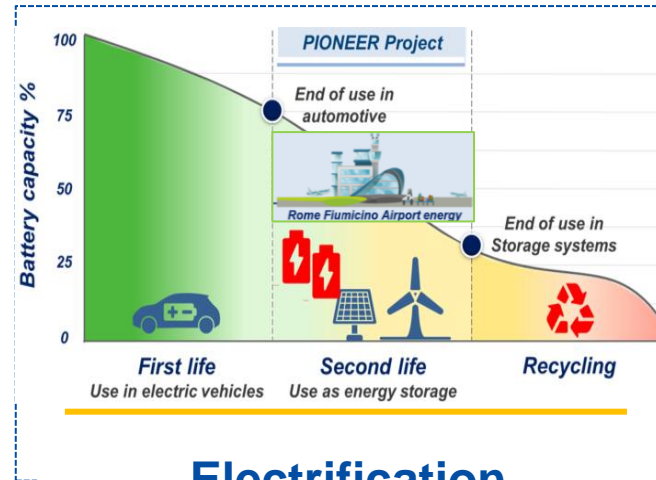


### ATM, Airport, Energy

- ATM Performance Based Navigation in HU.
- 220 e-buses & stations in NL for modal shift.
- Alt. Fuels Infr. Facility

[https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/connecting-europe-facility\\_en](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/connecting-europe-facility_en)

## Innovation Fund (scaling up clean tech)

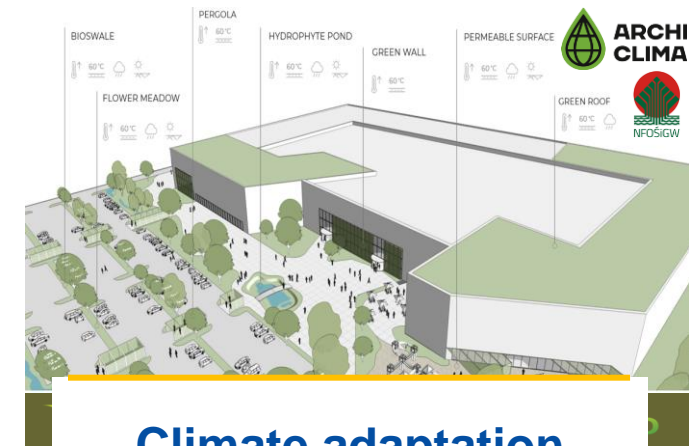


### Electrification

Rome airport self-sufficient  
Solar PV plant: 30 MW !  
2<sup>nd</sup> life batteries: 10MWh !  
with ENEL X + Fraunhofer

[https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/innovation-fund\\_en](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/innovation-fund_en)

## LIFE (nature-based solutions)

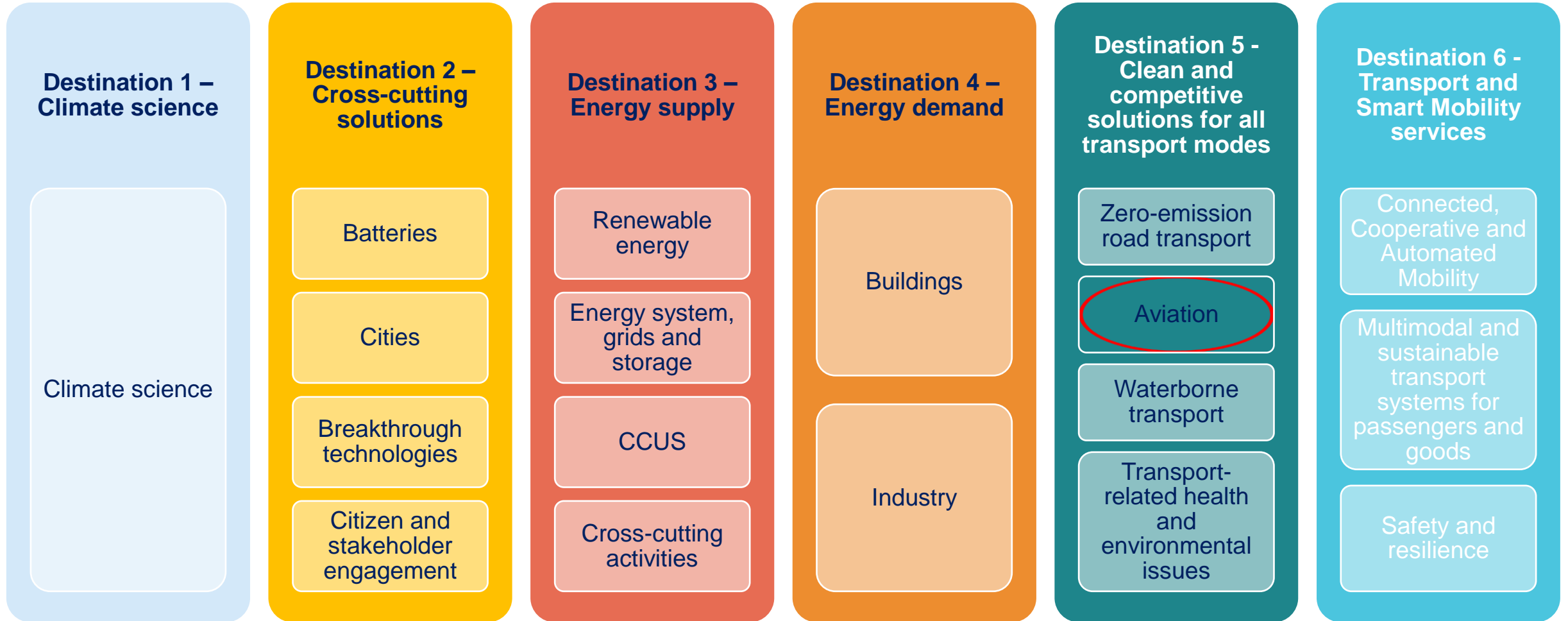


### Climate adaptation

Katowice airport upgrade  
(rainfalls, winds & storms,  
heat waves & hotspots)

[https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life\\_en](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en)

# Horizon Europe - Cluster 5 Overview



# TOPIC ID: HORIZON-CL5-2022-D5-01-13

- **Digital aviation technologies for new aviation business models, services, emerging global threats and industrial competitiveness**
- **31 received proposals and 5 funded projects:**
  - COLOSSUS
  - REFMAP
  - AVATAR
  - AIRSHIP
  - Di-PEGASUS

# Clustering activities with other projects in the topic

- The selected projects under **HORIZON-CL5-2022-D5-01-13 topic** are recommended to create a cluster of projects with the aim to identify potential areas of collaboration reinforcing their impact.
- The objectives of clustering for the European Commission and CINEA is to **stimulate exchange among projects** and ensure consistent feedback as per the topic's requirements.

## 2. Your Grant Agreement, how it works?

# This chapter explains:

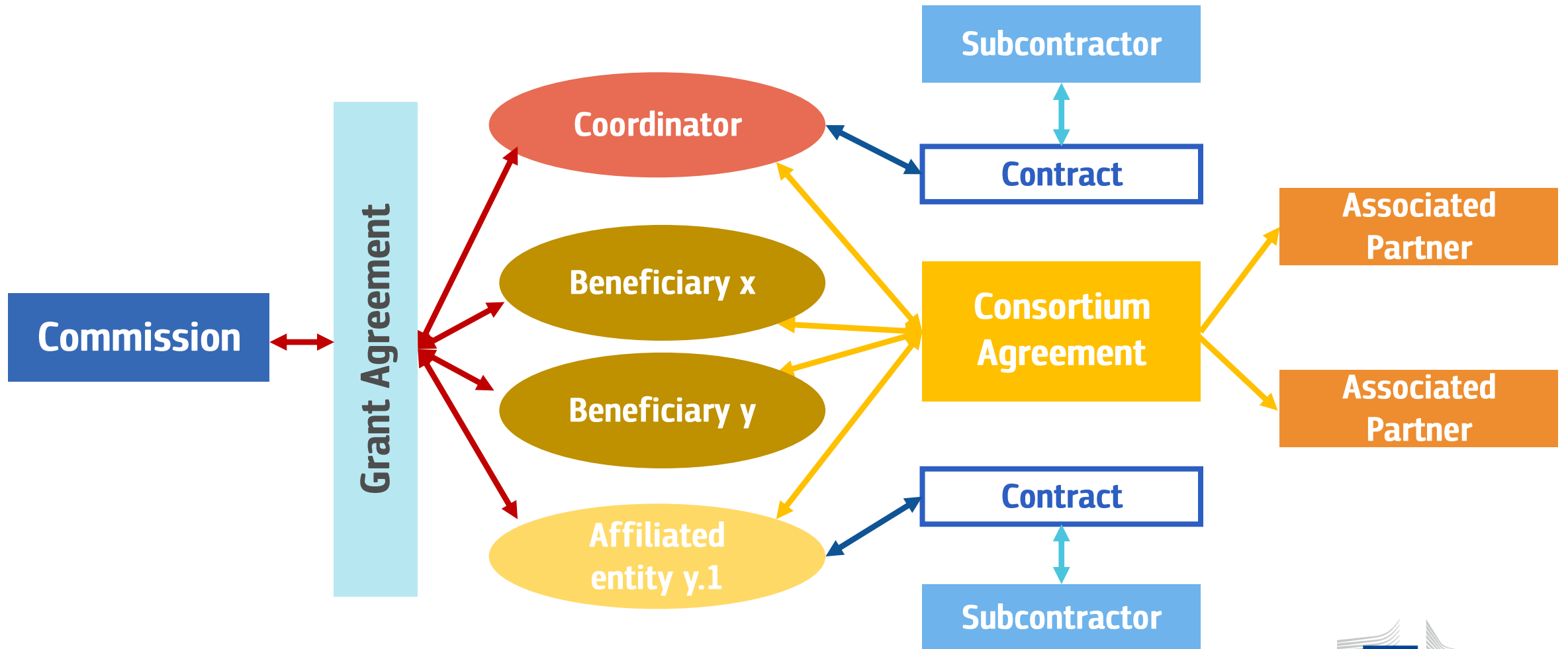
- A. Contractual Arrangements
- B. Roles in the project
- C. Reporting and payments
- D. Amendments to GA and controls
- E. Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation of results



Source: EC

## A. Contractual Arrangements

# Contractual arrangements



# Grant Agreement

Annotated Grant Agreement =  
Your **master** reference



[aga\\_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

Other useful references

[\*\*Horizon Europe Online Manual on the Participant Portal\*\*](#)



# Consortium agreement

 **Collaborative** project → Art. 7 of your grant agreement

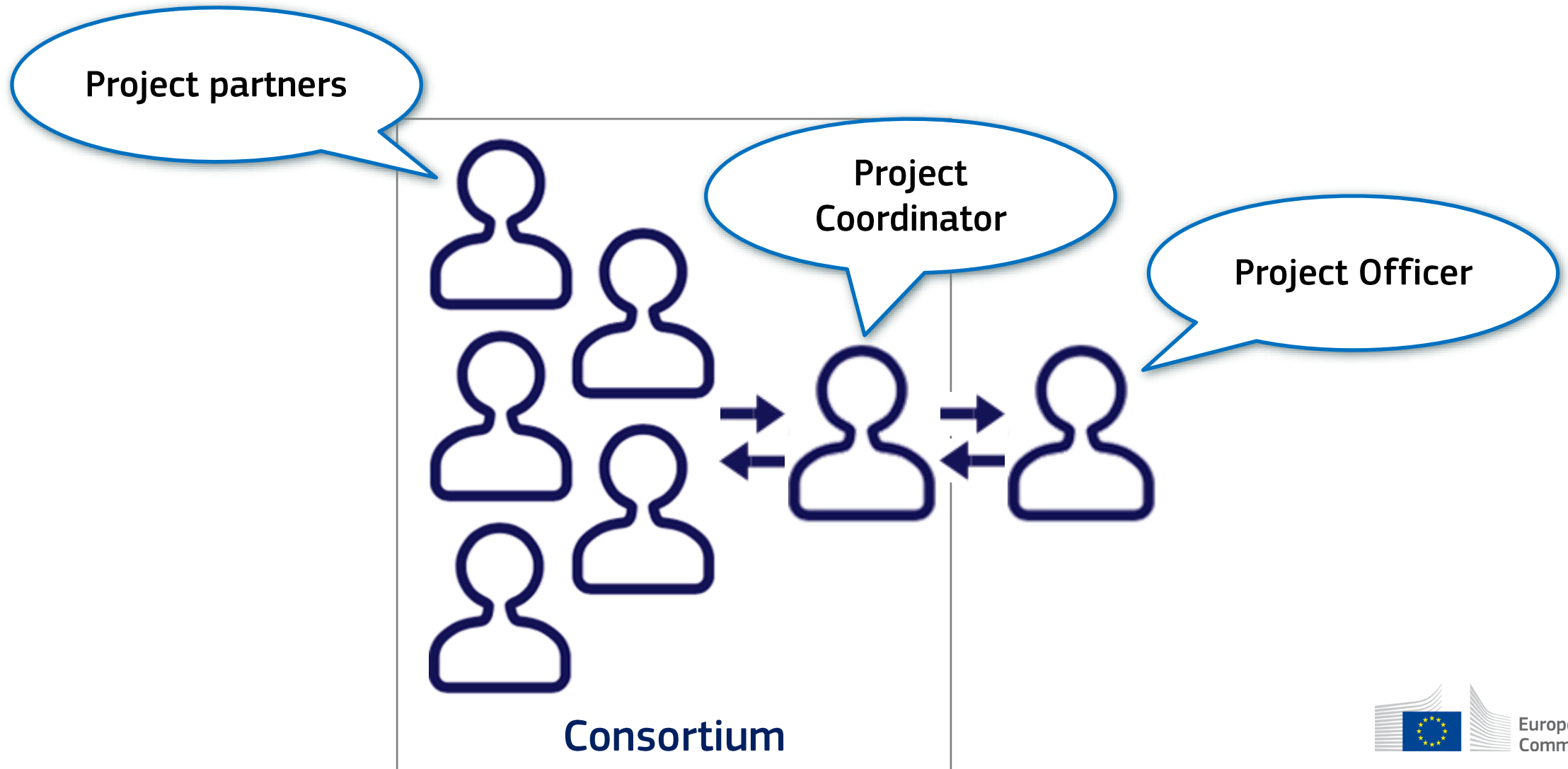
- **Compulsory:**
  - The Commission and / or CINEA do not take part
  - Must exist once the Grant Agreement enters into force
- **Key issues:**
  - Distribution of funds
  - Internal organisation of work, internal reporting
  - IPR (to be decided before signature of contract)
  - Risk management / collective responsibility
  - Decision-making process



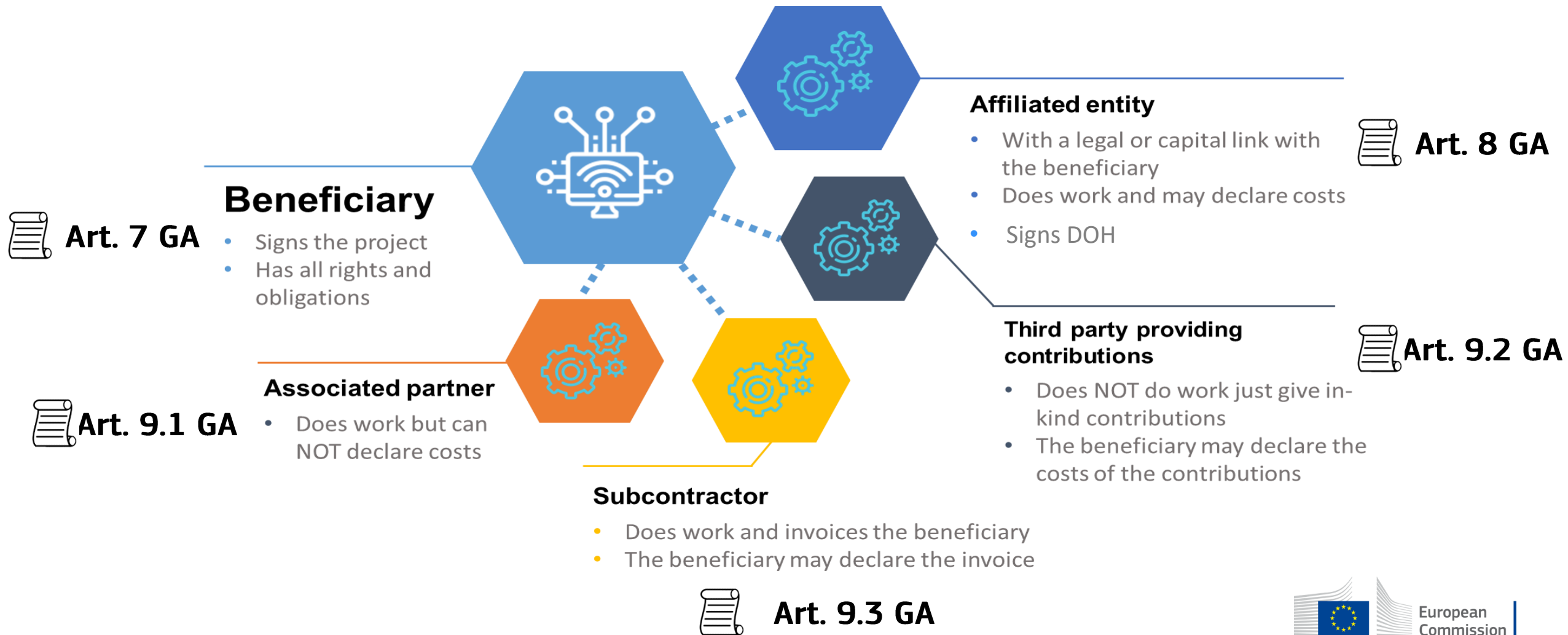
Photo by krakenimages on [Unsplash](#)

## B. Roles in the project

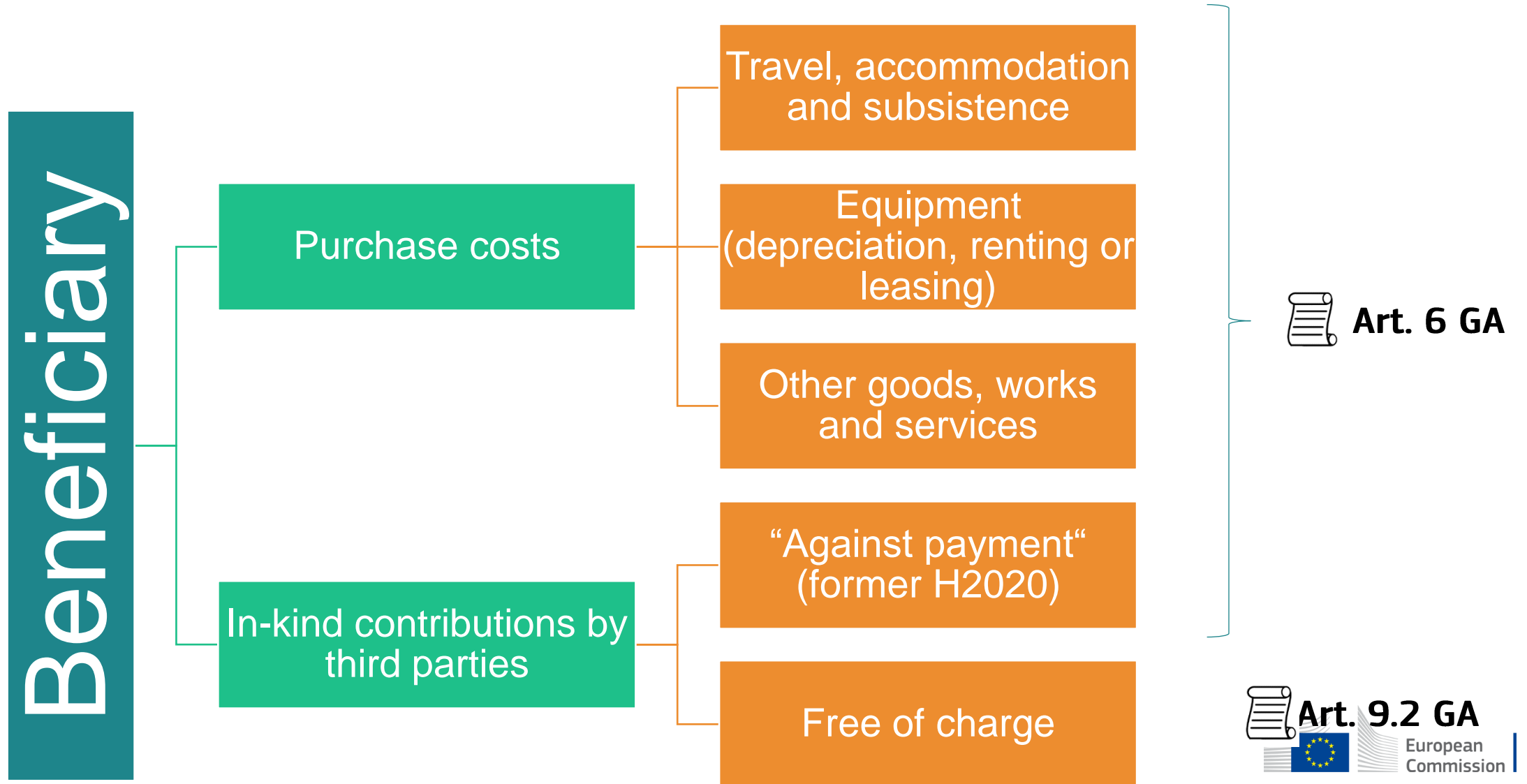
# Roles



# Grant implementation



# Other Third Parties



# Overview EU Grants participants and cost eligibility

TYPE	Works on 'action tasks'?	What is eligible for the beneficiary/ affiliated entity?	Must be indicated in Annex 1 GA?	Conditions for participation	GA article
Beneficiaries	YES	Costs	YES	Must be eligible	art 7
Affiliated entities	YES	Costs	YES	Must have a capital or legal link with a beneficiary and fulfil the same eligibility conditions	art 8
Associated partners	YES	n/a	YES	No specific conditions (APs do not receive funding).	art 9.1
Third parties contributing to the project	Participate in the action as contributors	n/a <i>(except HE: Costs)</i>	YES		art 9.2
Subcontractors	YES	Invoiced price	NO (only subcontracted tasks must be indicated)	Must be best value for money or lowest price and no conflict of interest	art 9.3
Third parties receiving financial support <sup>2</sup>	Participate in the action as recipients.	Amount of support given	YES	According to the conditions in Annex 1 GA	art 9.4



## C. Reporting and payments

# Continuous reporting – Deliverables and Milestones



**Art. 21 and Art. 27**  
of your grant agreement

- Define **objectives** of the report
- Quality check by Co: Do **deliverables comply with the GA?**
- Use **guidelines**, e.g.:
  - [Data management plan](#)
  - [Communication and dissemination](#)
- Do not forget to insert a glossary of terms
- Submit deliverables **in time**
- Public deliverables are automatically published by the EC
- If you realise the delivery date of deliverables is not coherent -> **inform us**

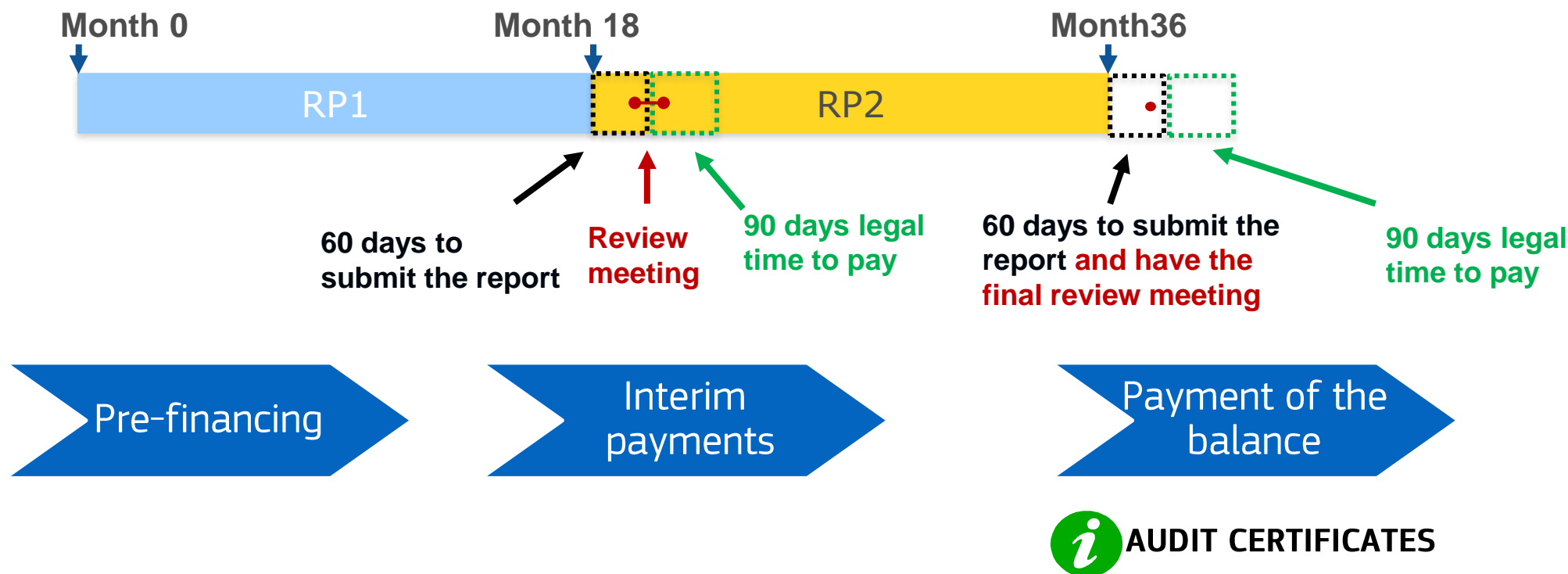
WP No	Del Ref. #	Del No	Title	Lead Benefi	Nature	Dissemination L	Est. Del. Date (s)	Receipt Date	Approval Date	Status	
WP1	D1.1	D1	Project mana	JÜLICH	Report	Confidential	31 Dec 2016			Pending	
WP1	D1.2	D2	Generate qua	JÜLICH	Report	Confidential	31 Mar 2018			Pending	
WP1	D1.3	D3	Update of the	JÜLICH	Report	Confidential	31 Mar 2018			Pending	
WP2	D2.1	D4	Project identi	UNR	Other	Public	31 Dec 2016			Pending	
WP2	D2.2	D5	First draft dis	JÜLICH	Report	Confidential	30 Sep 2017			Pending	
WP2	D2.3	D6	First draft ex	JÜLICH	Report	Confidential	30 Sep 2017			Pending	
WP2	D2.4	D7	Disseminator	JÜLICH	Report	Confidential	30 Sep 2018			Pending	
WP2	D2.5	D8	Exploitation p	JÜLICH	Report	Confidential	31 Mar 2019			Pending	
WP2	D2.6	D9	Newsletter for	UNR	Other	Public	30 Sep 2019			Pending	
WP3	D3.1	D10	Fabrication ar	CSEM	Report	Public	30 Sep 2018			Pending	
WP3	D3.2	D11	Optimized the	IMEC	Report	Confidential	31 Mar 2018			Pending	
WP3	D3.3	D12	Textured c-Si	TUD	Report	Public	30 Sep 2018			Pending	
WP4	D4.1	D13	IBC devices en	EPFL	Demonstrator	Public	30 Sep 2018			Pending	
WP4	D4.2	D14	IBC devices w	HZB	Demonstrator	Public	30 Sep 2019			Pending	

# Periodic reporting



- **Mandatory** at the end of the reporting period
- Answer questions in the **template**
- Activities carried out **during the implementation** as described in the deliverables
- In line with your **grant agreement**
- **Risks** encountered and **mitigation measures** applied
- Concise, clear text - **not ambiguous**
- **Quantify** where possible

# Payments



- i** The costs incurred after the end of the project related to the final review meeting and completion of the report are eligible as long as the report is not submitted until the review meeting has taken place
- i** **NEW:** Audit certificates needed if total EU contribution  $\geq 435.000$  € (reimbursement of actual & unit costs calculated in accordance with usual cost accounting practices (i.e. not indirect costs!))

# Reporting Fraud



OLAF = The European anti-fraud office

[www.olaf.eu](http://www.olaf.eu)



European Anti- Fraud Office (OLAF)  
European Commission 1049 Brussels

## FRAUD

A deliberate act of deception intended for personal gain or to harm the interests of another party. Examples include, stealing or diverting funds, misrepresenting or changing accounting records, transactions, invoices and, financial statements etc.

## CORRUPTION

The dishonest misuse or abuse of power by a person or entity, with authority, for illicit personal or private gain. For example, active and passive corruption such as various bribery or kick-back schemes.

## COLLUSION

The creation of a coordinated and secret conspiracy by several individuals or entities in order to defraud the EU budget. For example, trying to influence a tender or showing favoritism to a particular bidder or company for a contract. This also covers conflicts of interest.

## IRREGULARITY

Any breach of EU or national law resulting from an act or omission by an economic operator involved in the implementation of EU funds. Which has, or would have, caused damage to the EU budget by claiming unjustified (and fictitious?) items of expenditure.



Source: Unsplash.com

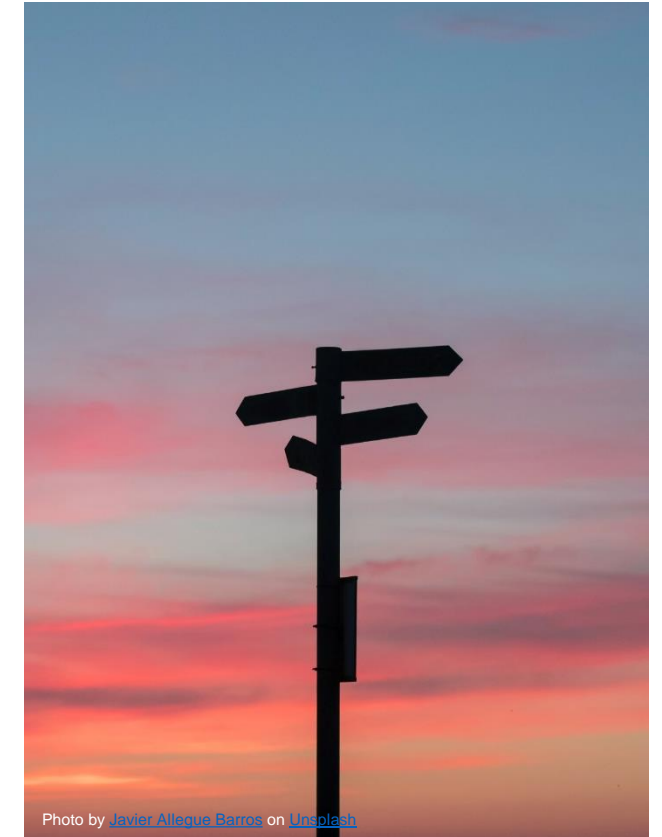
## D. Amendments to the Grant Agreement and controls and sanctions

# Amendments to the GA



**Art. 39 MGA**

- Takes time – **ANTICIPATE!!!**
- Must not have the purpose of making changes to the GA, which might **call into question the decision awarding the grant**
- Must be launched and submitted **electronically** via the Funding & Tenders portal by the coordinator – implies working in SyGma
- Give **priority** to urgent issues (e.g. termination of beneficiaries, partial transfers or rights and obligations, addition of affiliated entity, etc.)
- Provide a very clear **justification** supported by the DoA  
- Why is this necessary for the project?
- **Retroactivity** is only exceptional.
- Read the **guidelines**!



# Amendments to the GA



Art 5.5 MGA

**Budget flexibility** : The budget may be adjusted without an amendment as long as no important changes are brought to Annex 1. What counts = the nature of the change of the actions (qualitative).

## No AMD needed

- Budget transfers covered by the **budget flexibility**;
- **Name** or **address** changes of a participant — done directly in the Participant register;
- **Universal take-overs** (merger/acquisition) of a participant — done directly in the Participant Register;
- Changes of the **banking details** — done directly in the Participant Register.
- “**Simplified approval procedure**” (documented in the Periodic Report/UoR at REPA stage + assessed by the PO after submission).

## AMD needed:

- Adding a **new beneficiary**
- **Terminating** a beneficiary’s participation
- **Change of beneficiary** due to partial take-over
- Removal or addition of an **affiliated entity**
- Change of **coordinator or bank account**
- Change of **duration**
- Fundamental change of **scope/ impact/ ambition**

# Controls and sanctions

## Controls



Articles 25

- Financial and technical audits, reviews and controls
- These audits can be carried out by the Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), the European Court of Auditors (ECA), or by outside reviewers or auditors

## Sanctions




Articles 25 and 27 -34

- Rejections
- Grant reduction
- Amendments launched by EC


# Most common issues found in audits

## Personnel costs

 Art. 6 and  
Art. 20.1

- Lack of **time records**;
- Salary costs include ineligible elements of “**additional remuneration**” as extra bonuses;
- **Consultants** or external staff costs are incorrectly declared as personnel;
- Beneficiaries **without personnel** wrongly declare personnel costs;
- Charging “**billable hours**” (at commercial rates) instead of actual costs;
- Criteria for **in-house consultant** not met;
- Personnel working on the project not **formally covered** by the GA.

## Travel

 Art. 6.2C.1

- No valid supporting documents;
- Costs not related to the action.



Source: Unsplash.com



[How to avoid errors when claiming costs in H2020 grants](#)”.

# Most common issues found in audits

## Subcontracting



Art. 9.3

- Sub/contracting to a related party (**conflict of interest**).
- Lack of evidence that **procurement procedures** was sound (best value for money, transparency and equal treatment).

## Equipment



Art. 6.2.C.2

- No direct **measurement** of the costs done.
- Should be measured accurately <> no apportionment method (approximation, distribution keys, etc.).



Source: Unsplash.com

## E. Communication, dissemination and exploitation

# Communication, dissemination and exploitation

- It's **obligatory**
- Always **acknowledge** EU funding
- **Inform** CINEA about your actions
- Make a **plan** for communication dissemination and exploitation
- **Tools**: website, social media, publicity, PR, events, EC support tools,...
- **Alert CINEA about events milestones and articles**
- **Connect with CINEA's Twitter (tag us!) & LinkedIn**
- Check HE [communication guidelines](#)



**Article 16:** Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) – Background and Results – Access Rights and Rights of Use

**Article 17:** Communication, Dissemination & Visibility

# Communication, dissemination and exploitation

- Beneficiaries must promote the action through communication and dissemination activities, by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (**including the media and the public**), in a strategic and effective manner and possibly engaging in a two-way exchange.



**Article 17:** Communication, Dissemination & Visibility

# Communication, dissemination and exploitation

- The activities must address multiple audiences (**beyond the action's own community**), including the media and the public, **in a way that can be understood by non-specialists**. They should highlight the action's goals, results and include the public policy perspective sought, e.g. by addressing aspects such as:
  - contribution to competitiveness and to **solving societal challenges**
  - **impact on everyday lives** (e.g. creation of jobs, development of new technologies, better quality products, more convenience, improved life-style, etc)
  - actual or likely exploitation of the results by policy-makers, industry and other communities
  - **transnational cooperation in a European consortium** (i.e. how working together has allowed to achieve more than otherwise possible).

# Dissemination

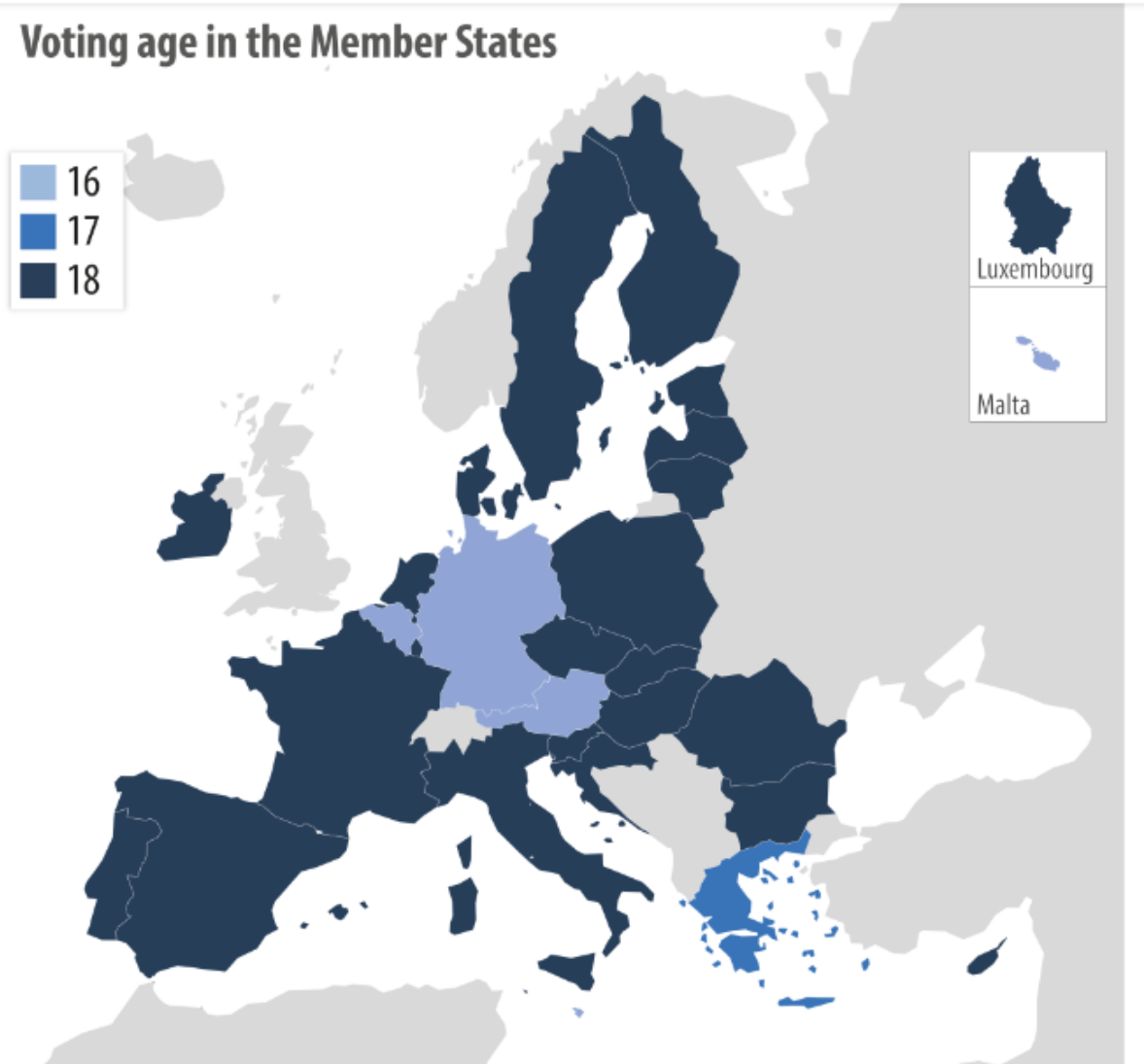
- **Dissemination** aims at maximizing the impact of research results in the public domain. Therefore, the target audience of dissemination activities is any potential user of the project results: the scientific community, stakeholders, industry, policy makers, investors, civil society, etc
- **How?**
  - Publishing results on scientific magazines, scientific and/or targeted conferences, databases
- **When?**
  - At any time, and as soon as the action has results
- **Why?**
  - Maximize result's impact
  - Allow other researchers to go a step forward
  - Contribute to the advancement of the state of the art

# Communication

- The **communication** activities go beyond dissemination: they do not involve project results only but also the project in general such as the societal challenges. **Target a much wider audience, including the media and the general public, including teenagers.** Use a less technical language so that a non-specialist audience can easily understand the goals and means of the project.
- **How?**
  - Conveying clear messages, using the right media channels, having a well-designed strategy
- **When?**
  - From the start of the action until the end
- **Why?**
  - Engage with stakeholders / Attract the best experts to your team
  - **Raise awareness on how public money is spent**
  - **Show the success of European collaboration**
  - **Highlight your efforts to accelerate a climate-neutral aviation**

# Communication

- Voting age in the Member States
- (2024 European elections)



Source: Compiled by EPRS, as of 20 July 2023.

EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service

Source: <https://epthinktank.eu/2023/06/07/voting-age-for-european-elections/>

# Exploitation

- The objective of **exploitation** activities is the better use of project results for valorisation and knowledge transfer.
- **How?**
  - Creating roadmaps, prototypes, softwares
  - Sharing knowledge, skills, data
- **When?**
  - Towards the end and beyond, as soon as the action has exploitable results
- **Why?**
  - For the benefit of Innovation, the economy and the society
  - Help to tackle a problem and respond to an existing demand
  - Lead to new legislation or recommendations

# Acknowledgement EU funding



Art. 16 and Art. 17

- Communication activities (website, leaflets, patents,...)
- Articles (scientific & Press)
- Public deliverables
- Infrastructure built with EU support

Display the EU emblem NOT the Commission's logo



Funded by the  
European Union



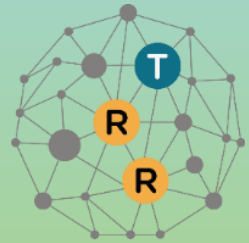
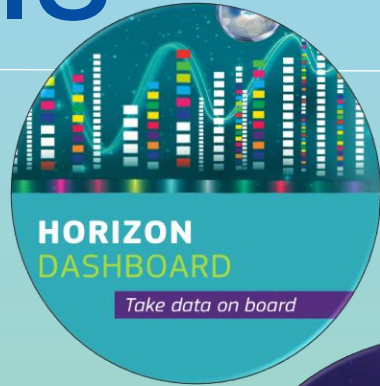
See the [guidelines](#)

## Disclaimer

*"Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."*

Download the [emblem](#)

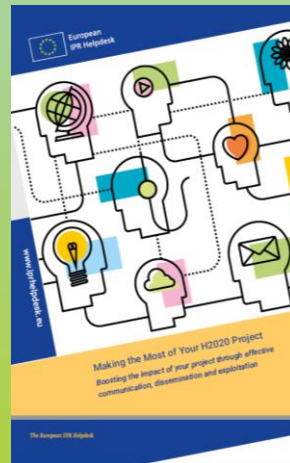
# EC channels



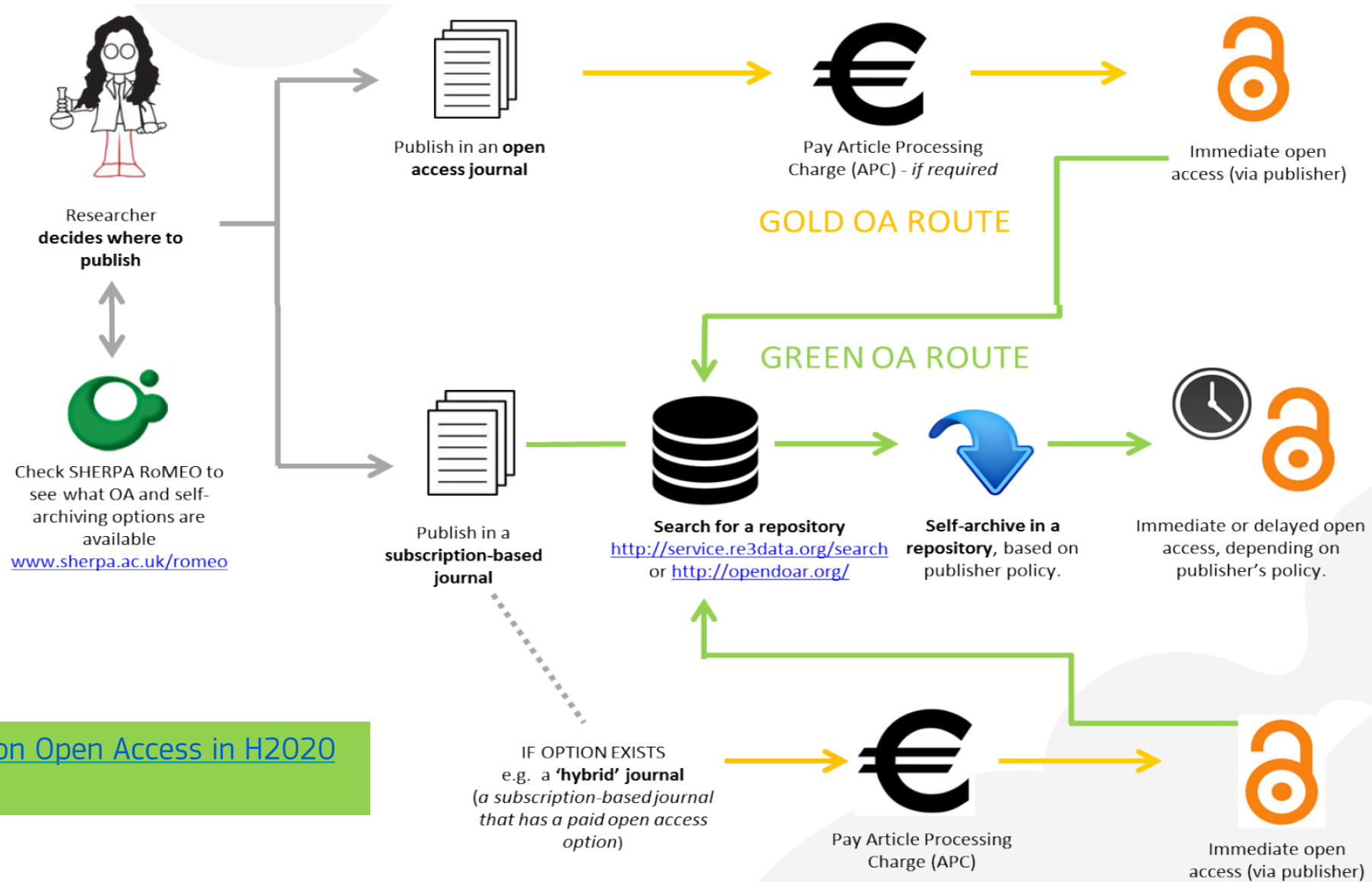
Tracking of Research Results



[info HRP](#)



# Horizon EU Open Access Mandate for scientific information



Guidelines on Open Access in H2020  
[Open Air](#)

# 3. What we expect from you

# Know your grant agreement



**Horizon Europe (HORIZON)**

**Model Grant Agreement**

Unit Grants

(HE Unit MGA — Multi & Mono)

# High Quality deliverables **on time**



# Talk to your PO



**The end of a reporting period is NOT the default time to raise problems!!**

# Communicate and disseminate



...to your stakeholders, other projects, specialised media, general public  
...through your website, social media & info systems

# To Do's

- ✔ **Interact** between partners
- ✔ Focus on **outcome/ impact**
- ✔ **Involve** stakeholders
- ✔ **Publish** deliverables
- ✔ Acknowledge **EU funding**
- ✔ Website: feed & keep **updated**
- ✔ Publish in **open access**

# Don't

- ✘ Re(use) material without mentioning sources: risk **plagiarism / ineligible costs**
- ✘ **No reference to EU funding** = no payment
- ✘ **Late delivery** - inform CINEA asap, may affect payment
- ✘ **Badly documented activities**
  - Unsubstantiated hours claimed
  - Insufficient reporting
  - Keep track of activities

# Interesting aspects of Di-PEGASUS

- ✓ 5 funded projects among 31 proposals
- ✓ Seaplanes, VTOL and drones use cases
- ✓ Business model conceptualisation and development
- ✓ Aircraft infrastructure readiness (maintenance, inspection)
- ✓ Icing and biofouling awareness and mitigation
- ✓ Social impact and sensitivity assessment

# Challenges and opportunities

## Challenges

- Regulatory frameworks: safety, security and privacy
- Public acceptance and social sensitivity
- Identification of the overall impact on the public and privileged class
- Economic impact
- Demonstration activities (authorities permit is required which differentiates among different regions)
- Work may overlaps between partners and/or other projects

## Opportunities

- Follow and participate in communication and dissemination events
- Communicate the project's contribution (most worthing outcomes)
- Inputs from completed 'sister' EU projects (reference in next slide)
- EU is the global leader in developing the necessary regulatory framework for all kind of drone devices and operations
- **DRONE STRATEGY 2.0** (19 Flagship actions)
- **U-space regulation** for airspace management system
- Pay attention to **FLAGSHIP ACTION 7** – the IAM hub platform
- **Further calls** in 2025 and 2026 using Horizon Europe, the EIB and EDF and other possible instruments

# Completed 'sister' projects

- **CINEA:** 5D-AEROSAFE, AW-DRONES, HARMONY, LABYRINTH, MONIFLY, PANOPTIS, RAPID, RESIST, AiRMOUR, FF2020, AURORA, ASSURED-UAM
- **SESAR JU:**
  - DRONES:BUBBLES, DACUS, ICARUS, Metropolis 2, USEPE,
  - U-space: AMU-LED, CORUS-XUAM, GOD 2.0, SAFIR-MED, TINDAIR, Uspace4UA



**WE NEED  
PEOPLE  
LIKE YOU**

# Horizon Europe Evaluation Experts

Interested?

Contact CINEA or register on  
[website](#)

# Thank you

CINEA on TWITTER: @cinea\_eu

CINEA on LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cinea-european-climate-infrastructure-environment-executive-agency/about/>

CINEA website: [https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/index\\_en](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/index_en)



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