



**Circular
Cities & Regions
Initiative**

Introduction to the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI)

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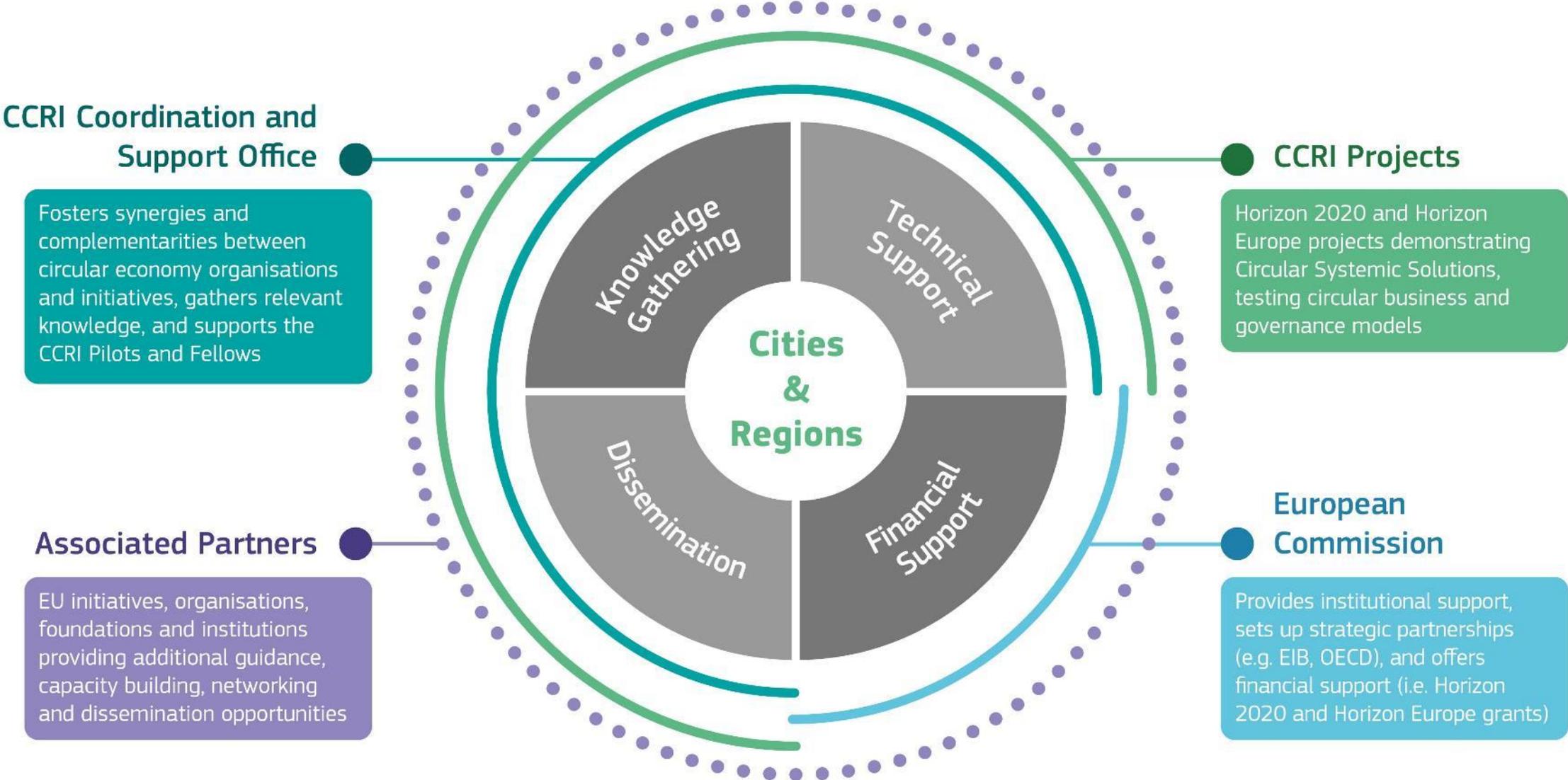
About the Circular Cities and Regions Initiative (CCRI)

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- **An innovative collaboration and support scheme of the European Commission,** launched by DG Research & Innovation
- **Part of the EU Circular Economy Action Plan 2020,** and contributing to the policy objectives of the EU Green Deal as well as the EU Bioeconomy Strategy
- Supported by the EU's R&I funding programme (Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe): **more than €250 million in 2020-2024**
- Aims to support the **implementation of circular systemic solutions** in EU cities and regions, as well as **the development of new circular business and governance models.**



A multi-stakeholder collaboration & support scheme





Circular economy projects supporting sustainable agri-food systems

Castilla y León (CCRI Pilot): Championing the transition towards bio-based fertilisers

The Castilla y León Regional Government adopted its own Circular Economy Strategy in October 2021 with the aim of making the region a competitive and innovative territory by 2030, based on a **regenerative and carbon neutral model**. In this pilot, a circular systemic solution for **nutrient recovery** will be developed, making an **efficient use of natural renewable resources**, developing cascade uses and **returning biowaste and biomass to nature**.

- **Solution:** The regional nutrient recovery platform in Castilla y León aims to promote sustainable, circular, bio-based nutrient fertilisers, reducing reliance on fossil-based fertilisers like phosphorus.
- **Impact:** The project will utilise local bio-by-products from urban, food, and agro-forestry sectors, supporting eco-friendly agricultural practices, improving soil health, and lowering the use of chemical fertilisers.





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