

EN
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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.1.2025)

1. The Batteries Regulation¹ and secondary legislation will ensure that the conditions for all recycling facilities will be the same, enabling a smooth cooperation along the EU recycling value chain.

2. Under Horizon Europe², the Commission has established the co-programmed partnership on battery research and innovation BATT4EU providing an EU investment of up to EUR 925 million. This partnership covers the full value chain and so far EUR 115 million (i.e. ~19% of the presently allocated budget) are going into recycling and circularity. Beyond Horizon Europe, the Innovation Fund³ funds innovative projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with battery recycling in scope and 4 projects already funded.

Under State aid rules, the Commission has approved two battery related Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs)⁴ that cover recycling and refining, providing EUR 6 billion in public funding, by the participating Member States, unlocking EUR ~14 billion in private investments.

The Joint European Forum for IPCEI (JEF-IPCEI), a partnership between the Commission and the Member States, has endorsed a proposed IPCEI candidate on circular advanced materials for clean technologies on 27 November 2024. Member States will work on the design of this IPCEI candidate.

3. The next call for BATT4EU is to be published early 2025 and the Work Programme 2026-27 is to be developed. Battery recycling will remain an integral part. Innovative battery recycling projects remain eligible for the Innovation Fund.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2023/1542 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2023 concerning batteries and waste batteries, amending Directive 2008/98/EC and Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and repealing Directive 2006/66/EC, OJ L 191, 28.7.2023, p. 1–117.

² https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en

³ https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/innovation-fund_en

⁴ https://competition-policy.ec.europa.eu/state-aid/ipcei/approved-ipceis/batteries-value-chain_en