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# NWE Annual Event

Cooperating for lasting impact

## WIFI

ID: ECCL WiFi

Password: **NWE2025!**



[app.swapcard.com/event/nwe-annual-event](https://app.swapcard.com/event/nwe-annual-event)



Interreg North-West Europe (NWE)



@interregnwe.bsky.social



#NWEAnnualEvent



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# Taking results one step further





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# Taking results one step further

**Ingeborg Absil**

Director for Mobility and Infrastructure Quality

Rijkswaterstaat

**David Grzegorzewski**

Programme Director

Interreg NWE Joint Secretariat

**Wim Soetaert**

Founder & CEO

Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant

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# Interreg as a game-changer

*3 main Network Corridors – 1 Digital layer – EU collaboration*



**MAIN ROADS**



**WATERWAYS**



**WATER SYSTEMS**

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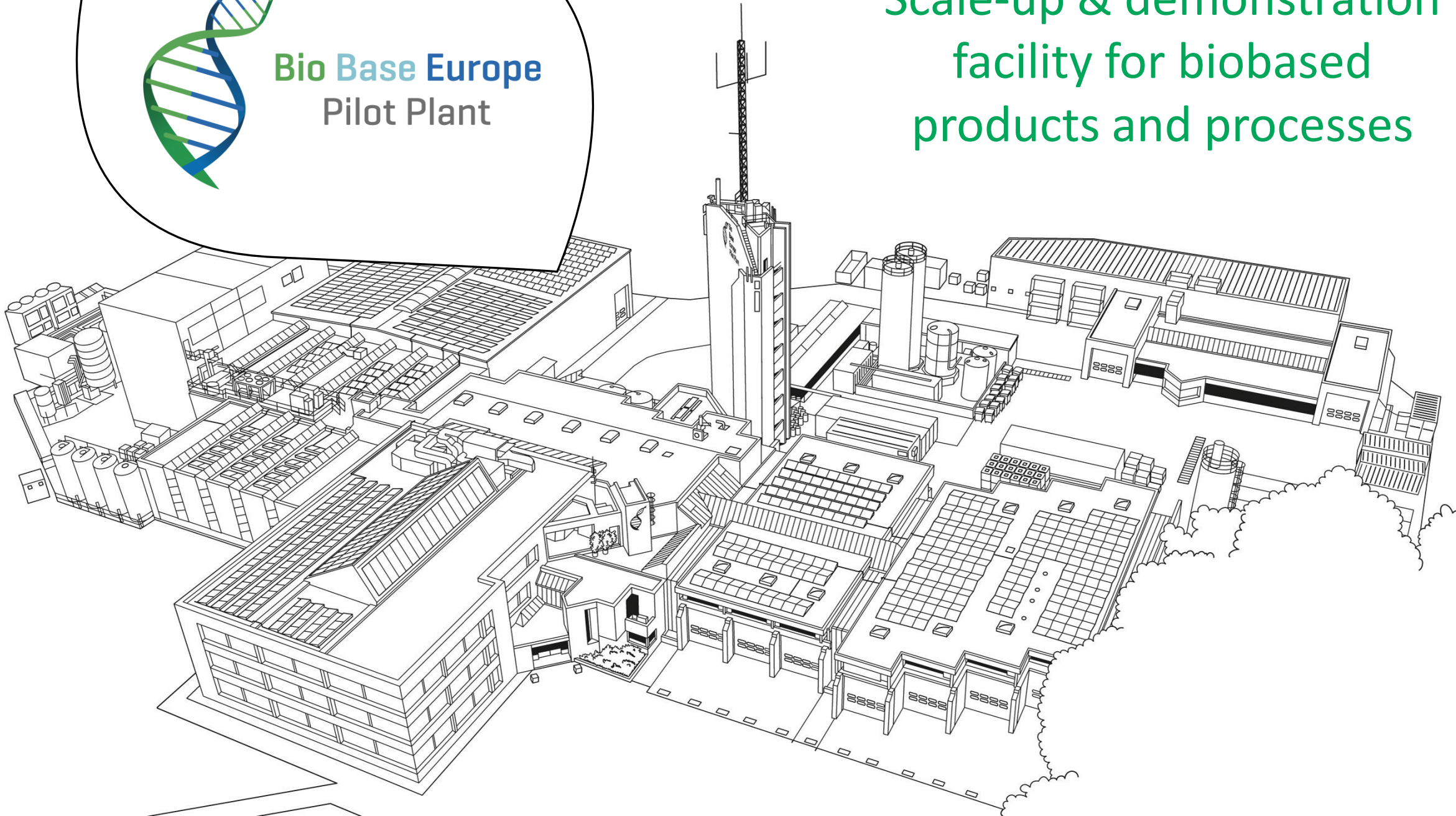






**Bio Base Europe**  
Pilot Plant

Scale-up & demonstration  
facility for biobased  
products and processes







From grams



to tonnes







Bio Base Europe  
Pilot Plant

**We take your innovation to the next level**



# One of our process halls





**Bio Base Europe Pilot Plant started from scratch in 2009**



**The initial pilot infrastructure was built up in 2009 – 2011 with Interreg support**

**Over the years we expanded and grew into a self-sustainable organisation:**

- Independent and autonomous organisation
- Mission-driven (not-for-profit) organisation
- Annual growth rate of 20-30 %
- Current number of employees: > 170
- Total investment: about 100 million euro
- Turnover 2024: >25 million euro
- Our customers are diverse companies from Europe, USA, Asia,...

**We have grown into the largest biobased pilot plant in the world**



# Lasting impact: EU Interreg NWE enabler Orléans –Nijmegen Embraced in Dutch National Policy Climate & Infrastructure Resilient Network Corridor

Nijmegen, flood resilient Infrastructure, strengthening resilience inland waterways & catchment.



ROOM FOR THE RIVER  
PROGRAM (NL)



CITY OF ORLÉANS &  
DEPARTEMENT DU  
LOIRET (FR)



# Key Success Factors



- Entrepreneurial and ambitious spirit from the start
- Independent and self-sustainable

We are entirely on our own but we can decide and pivot fast

- Focus on growth to reach critical mass and sustainability asap

Small is beautiful, but bigger is better

Small projects, small impact. Big projects, big impact

- Good and enthusiastic collaborators: difficult to find, motivation is key

We want to change the world to make it more sustainable







# Looking ahead: 3 Focus Pillars to realise long term impact enhancing Resilience in Europe by scaling Results & Partnerships

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REPROACT



Ruimte voor  
de Rivier 2.0

Needs



Partnerships



Barriers



EU Agenda priorities  
How to get Critical  
Infrastructure  
Resilience included

EU Legislation and  
the Member States  
translation to  
national legislation  
and implementation

EU Market delivering  
new technologies  
and innovations



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# Taking results one step further

**Alexandre Colombani**

Head of Unit – Development and Communication  
Interreg NWE Joint Secretariat



# What is capitalisation?

Enhancing **the impact** of projects

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# Why capitalise?



**Support the further uptake** of  
project outputs



**Seize unforeseen opportunities** that  
emerge throughout project duration



**Increase Programme impact**  
throughout NWE and beyond

# Supporting NWE projects in taking results a step further

## Telling the story

**Provide tools and visibility** for projects to showcase and replicate their outputs

## Building on success

Support the **uptake of successful project outputs** beyond what was initially planned

## Creating connections

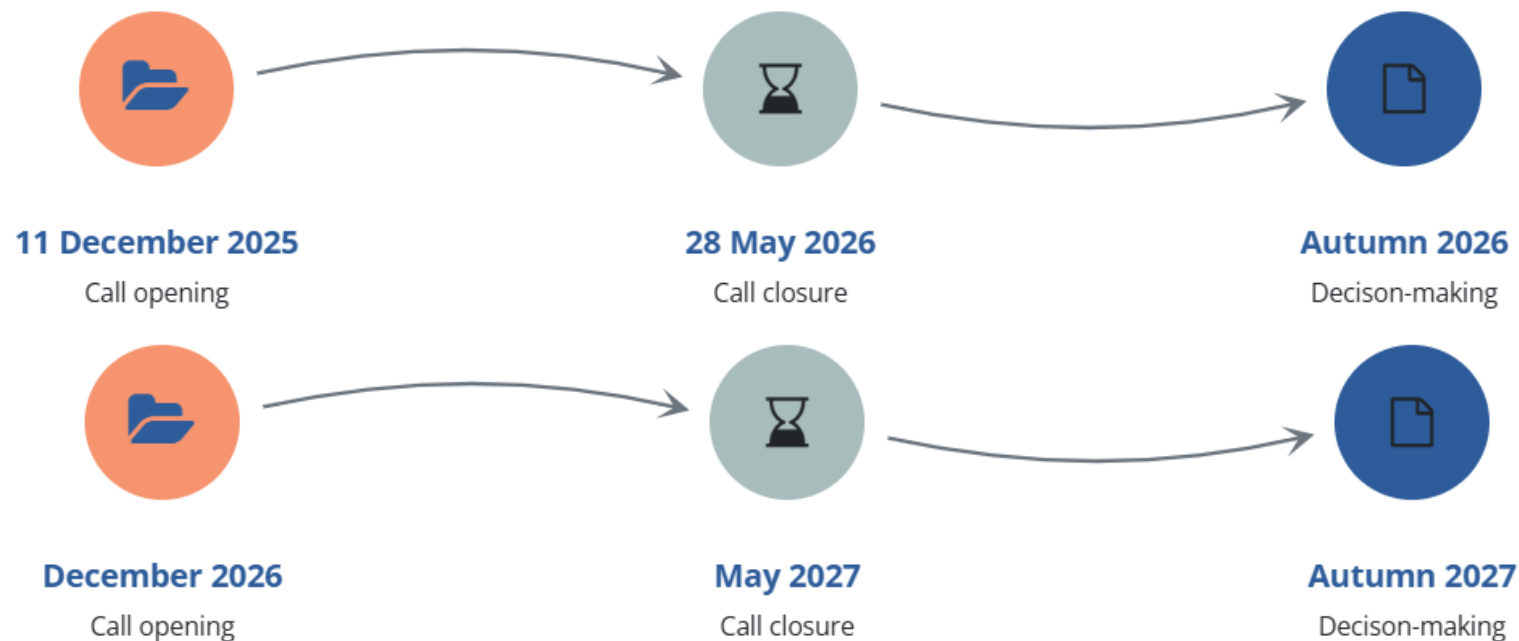
**Facilitate knowledge exchange** and networking among partners and projects, within NWE and beyond



# Capitalisation calls

## Main features

**Two calls planned** by the end of the Programme



**Budget : 7M euros** dedicated to cap call 1 (*tbd for cap call 2*)

# First capitalisation call

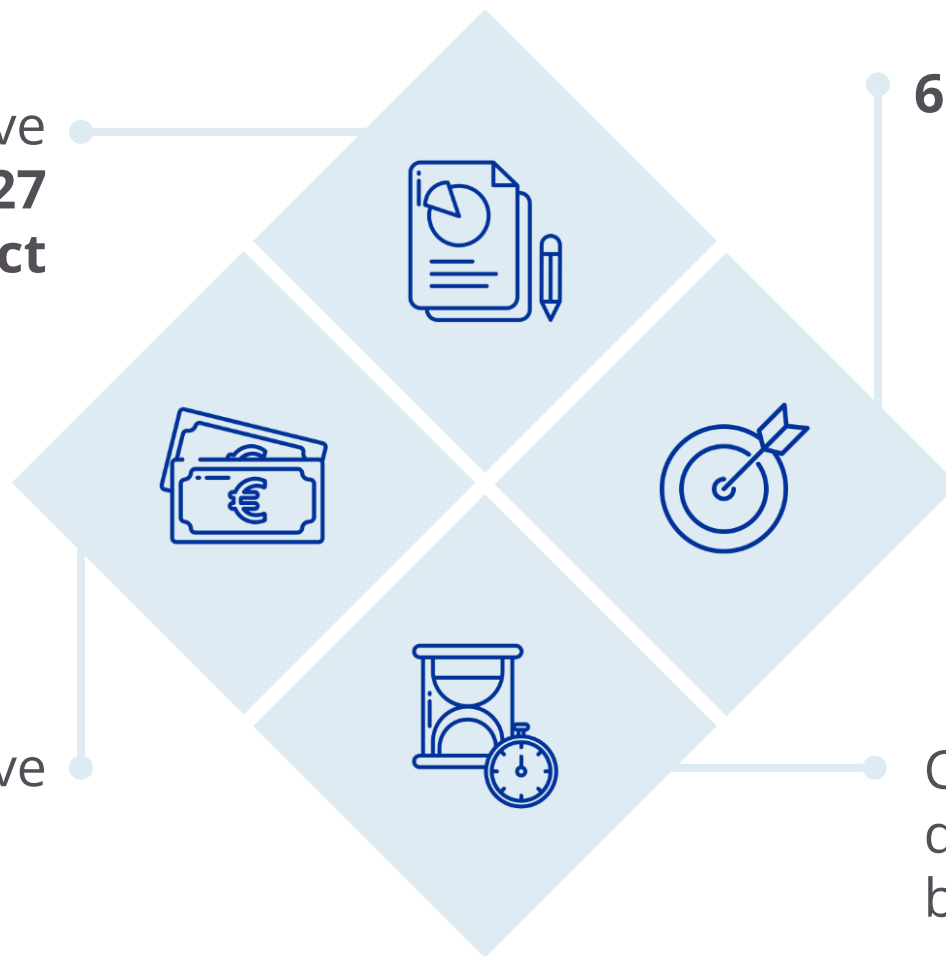
## Main features

Capitalisation initiative  
**based on a 21-27  
project**

**65 projects eligible:**  
calls 1, 2 and 4

Capitalisation initiative  
budget is **maximum**  
**€800 000 TEC**

Capitalisation initiative  
duration does not go  
beyond **18 months**





# Duration

Original project duration

Capitalisation initiative

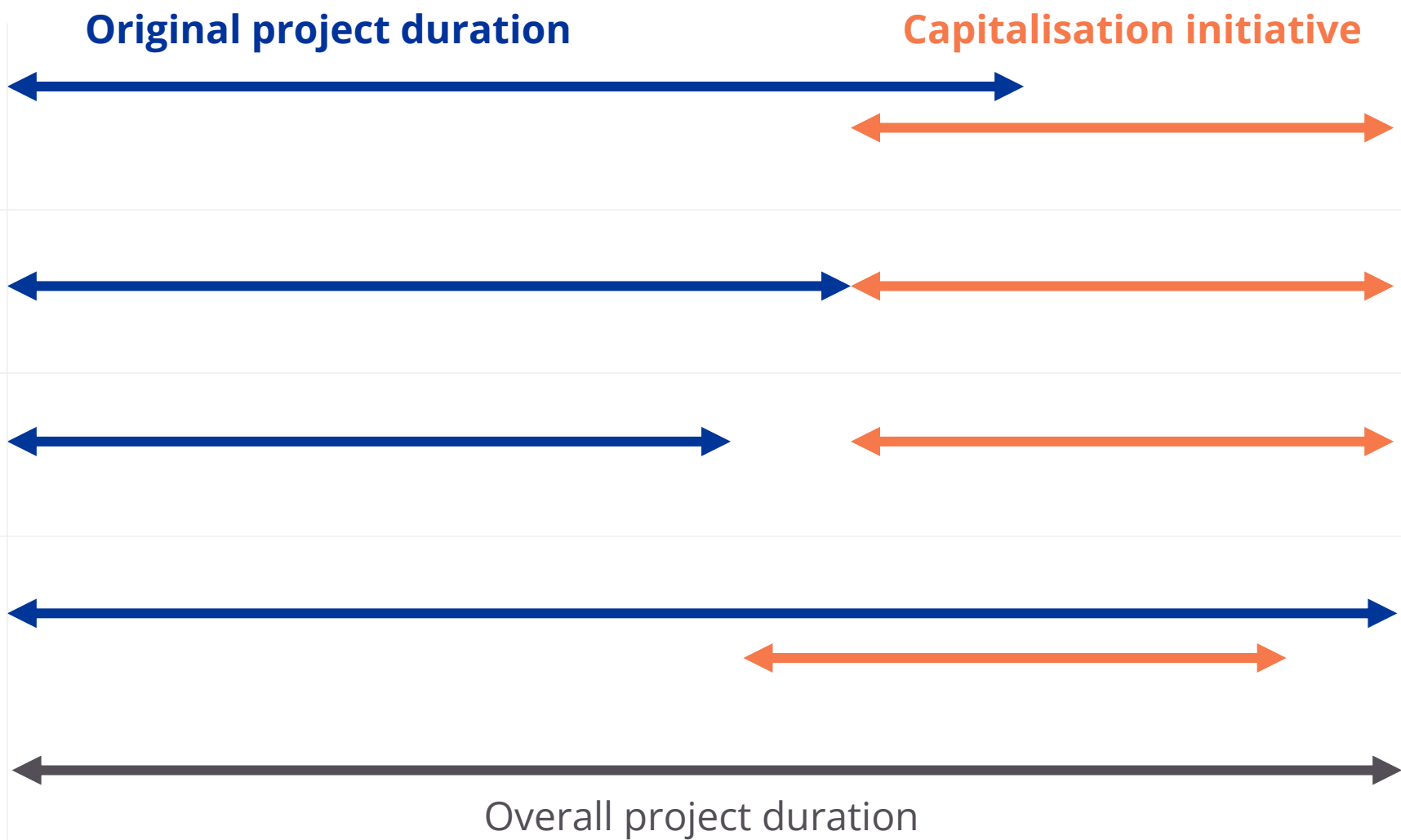
Possibility 1

Possibility 2

Possibility 3

Possibility 4

Overall project duration



# What are we looking for?

Capitalisation initiative proposals are assessed against **three main quality assessment** criteria

Assessment criteria	Weight
Capitalisation potential	30%
Expected impact	40%
Quality of the partnership and cooperation	30%



# Capitalisation potential

The cap initiative must build on a project output that has **successfully** demonstrated :

- **Impact on territories** and / or citizens
- **Uptake potential** by other stakeholders

The cap initiative **goes beyond the results initially planned**

The cap initiative builds on a **well-functioning 2021-2027 project**

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# Expected impact

→ Further **uptake of project output(s):**



in **new territories**  
within NWE



in **new fields** or  
domains of activity



by reaching **new target groups** or type of  
stakeholders

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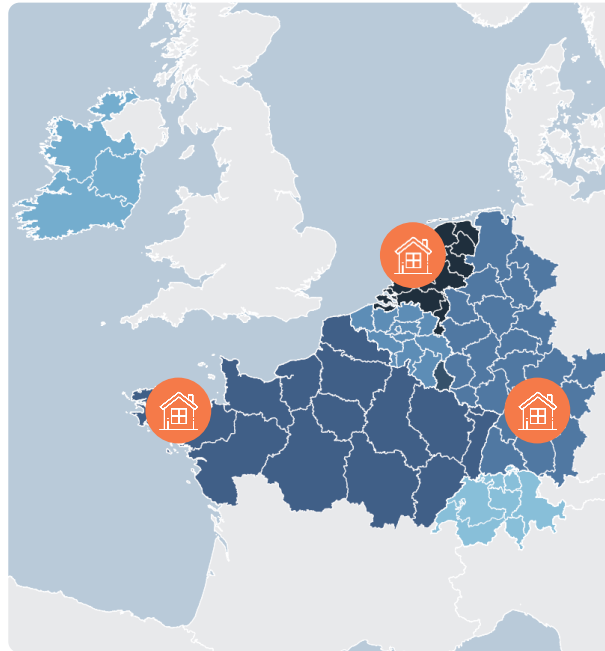


# Examples – type of projects

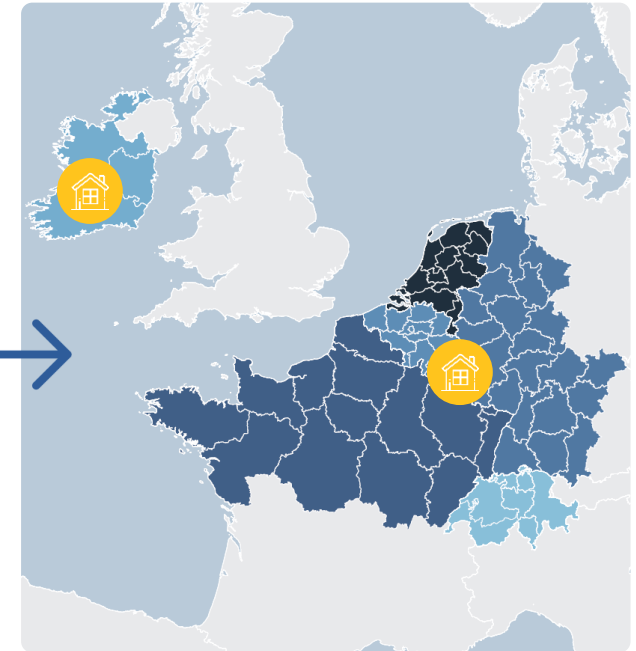
Supporting the further **uptake of solutions in new territories**



*Energy retrofitting solution for houses*



*Implemented in rural villages in DE, NL and FR*



*Replicated in IE and LU*

# Examples – type of projects

Supporting the further uptake of solutions in **new fields / domains of activity**

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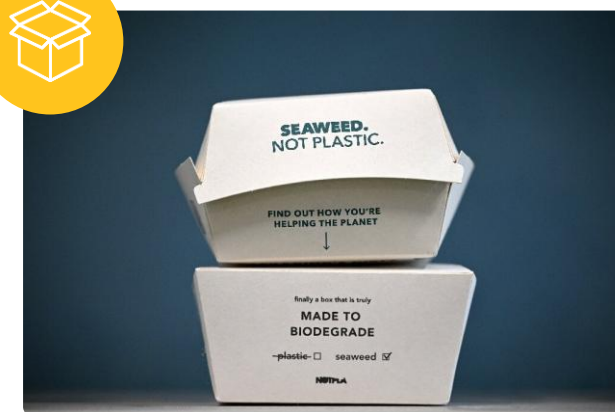
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Original output : Algae for **energy** supply



Project focusing on the **use of algae**



Cap initiative : Algae in **biobased products**



# Examples – type of projects

Adapting existing trainings  
for a **new target audience**



Project aiming to **train employment agencies**



Employment agencies trained to support **young people** not in employment



Adapts this training for agencies to target **unemployed seniors**

# Expected impact

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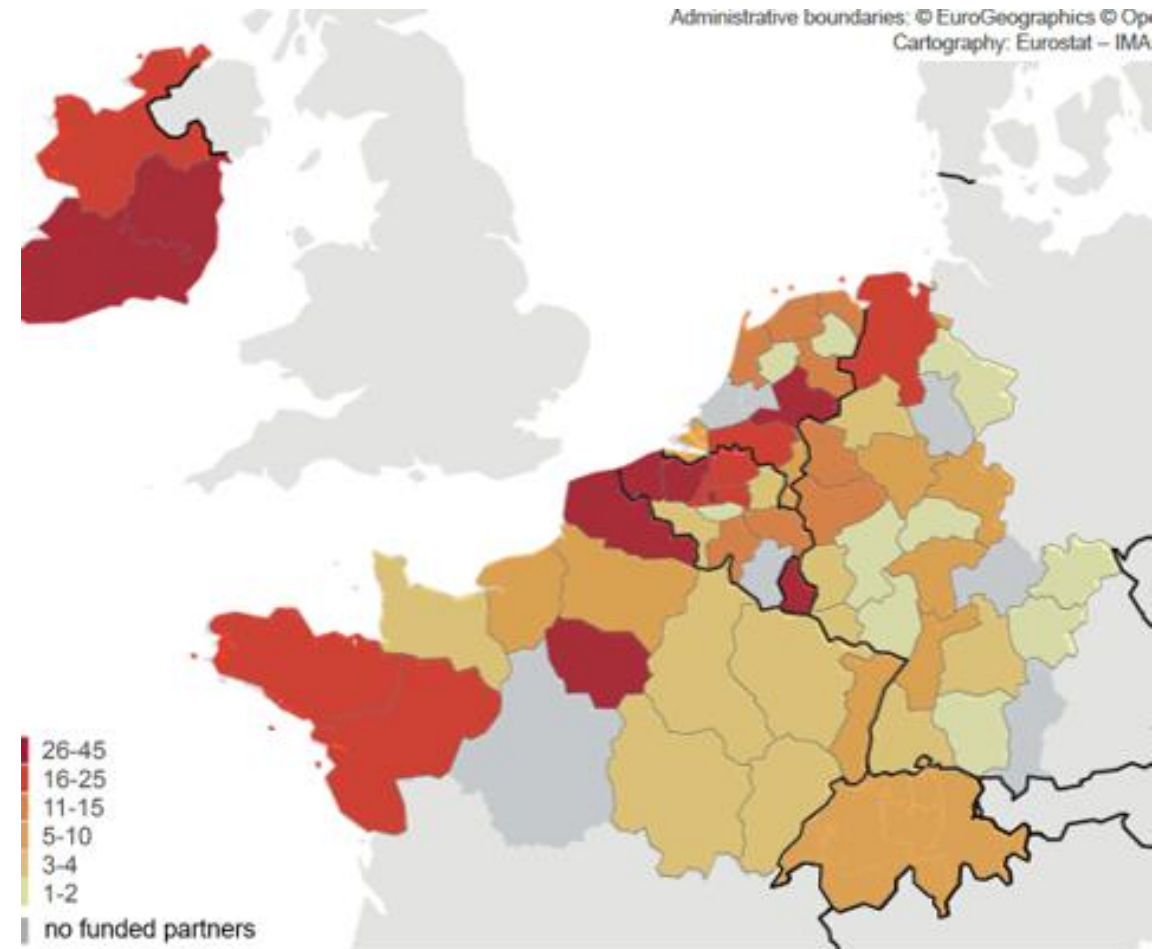


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## Territorial relevance – what do we mean?

- A **balanced development of the NWE area**
- Reducing territorial disparities
- Reaching out to **territories less involved** so far in the NWE Programme area





# Expected impact

## What outputs and results are we expecting?

- Measurable and **quantified**
- Contribute to the programme **indicators**
- The **project budget** is used in accordance with the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness

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# Partnership quality and cooperation

## What is a good cap. partnership?

- **Relevant stakeholders** to reach the objectives it aims for  
→ Partnerships can be modified
- **Well-defined roles** and responsibilities for each partner
- **Transnational cooperation** is clearly embedded in the planned activities



# Application process

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One step  
process

**1**  
STEP

 **Jems**

Application Form  
on **Jems**

If approved the cap initiative is included in the  
original application form as an **extra work package**

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# How to get support?



**Get in touch with your  
Contact Point**

[www.nweurope.eu/contact-points/](http://www.nweurope.eu/contact-points/)



# How to get support?

## Sign up to the NWE online community

[www.nweurope.eu/programme-2021-2027/nwe-online-community/](http://www.nweurope.eu/programme-2021-2027/nwe-online-community/)

**1486**

ORGANISATIONS

**0**

PROJECT IDEAS

# Interreg NWE

Online Community

# First capitalisation call Timeline

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December 2025

Cap call n°1  
opening



28 May 2026

Deadline for  
submission



Autumn 2026

Get notified  
and start  
your cap  
activities



18 months later...

Cap initiative  
ends





## Social media challenge

Share your event highlight:

- Use the hashtag #NWEAnnualEvent
- Tag the Programme

LinkedIn: **@Interreg North-West Europe (NWE)**

Bluesky: **@interregnwe.bsky.social**



## Project gallery

Explore the project gallery and vote for the **most inspiring story**

- Cast your vote on **Slido**!



# What's next?

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**10:45 – 11:15**

**Foyer 1 - Level 0**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**11:15 – 13:00**

**THEMATIC NETWORKING SESSION – CREATING LASTING CHANGE**

- Improving water resilience and security **Delegates room (Part 1 & 2) – Level -3**
- Driving the energy transition with communities **Banquet room – Level +1**
- Cultivating smart and sustainable agriculture **Workshop +1 room – Level +1**
- Developing resilient and smart cities **Plenary 1 – Level 0**
- Enhancing access to healthcare **Delegates room (Part 3) – Level -3**
- Promoting reuse practices and circularity **Workshop 0 room – Level**

**Check your  
personalised agenda  
on the event app!**

