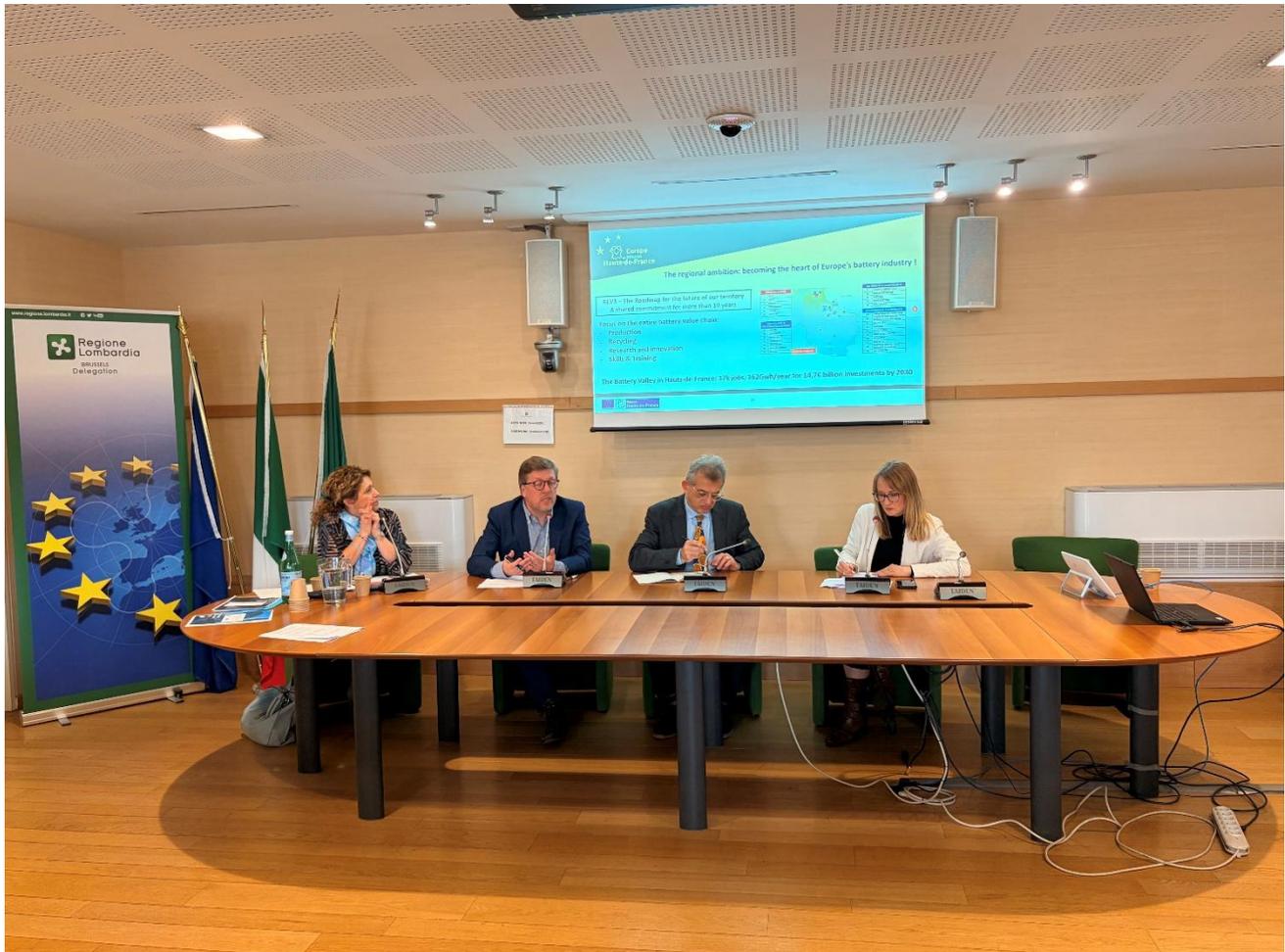




19 March 2026



*Roundtable: “Regions Driving Europe’s Circular Battery Value Chain - Policies to support regional investments” (from left to right: Valentina PINNA, European Commission; Romain Nivelles, Hauts de France; Dario Sciunnach, Lombardy Region and Shenja Ruthenberg, Team 2).*

## BATMASS Hosts First CBV Investment Forum to Accelerate Circular Battery Investments in Europe

Brussels, 19 March 2026 – The BATMASS project successfully hosted the **first Circular Battery Valley (CBV) Investment Forum – “Accelerating Circular Battery Investments for a Sustainable Future”** in Brussels. The event brought together investors, policymakers, industry representatives and innovators to explore opportunities to scale up circular battery technologies and strengthen Europe’s battery value chain.

19 March, 2026 - Press Release | Media Contact - Marta Gonzalez, EU Projects  
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Held at the **Lombardy Region Delegation to the EU**, the forum served as a meeting point for key stakeholders committed to supporting the transition towards a more sustainable, resilient and competitive European battery ecosystem.

The event gathered approximately 70 selected and invited participants, including representatives from the European Commission, regional authorities, venture capital funds, institutional investors and companies active across the battery value chain.

### **Mobilising investments for Europe's circular battery ecosystem**

The forum focused on the critical role of **investment and policy frameworks** in accelerating the development and deployment of circular battery technologies in Europe.

Opening remarks were delivered by **Maria Ilaria Bassani (Lombardy Region)**, **Nicola De Michelis (European Commission – DG REGIO)** and **Tullio Tolio (Politecnico di Milano, BATMASS coordinator)**, who highlighted the importance of aligning regional innovation ecosystems with European investment instruments.

Throughout the morning, representatives from the European Commission presented key **EU funding and investment instruments supporting the battery sector**, including the **Battery Booster initiative, ERDF and the I3 Instrument, the Innovation Fund and the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)**.

A keynote session explored the growing role of private capital in the battery industry, with insights from **BPI France** and **Exergon**, addressing the opportunities and challenges facing battery investments in Europe.

### **Regions and industry shaping the Circular Battery Valley**

Two high-level panel discussions examined how regional strategies and industrial cooperation can drive the development of a competitive circular battery value chain in Europe.

Speakers from regional governments, European institutions and industry organisations discussed policy frameworks and regional collaboration mechanisms to unlock investments and scale circular battery solutions.

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The afternoon programme featured pitch sessions from startups and scale-ups, presenting innovative technologies and business models in battery recycling, material recovery and circular manufacturing. These sessions provided investors with direct insights into emerging opportunities in the circular battery sector.

The event concluded with the presentation of the Circular Battery Valley Toolkit, designed to support the development of investment-ready projects and strengthen collaboration across European regions.

### **Driving the Circular Battery Valley vision**

The CBV Investment Forum represents a key milestone in the development of the **Circular Battery Valley (CBV)**, an initiative promoted within the BATMASS project to build a cross-regional ecosystem for circular battery innovation and investment.

*"It was inspiring to see policymakers, investors, industry leaders and innovators come together in person, united by a common goal: accelerating the future of circular batteries and battery recycling in Europe"* Pierre Padilla, N-ABLE

By connecting investors, innovators and policymakers, the forum aims to accelerate the commercialisation of circular battery technologies and support the growth of a competitive European battery industry.

### **About the BATMASS Project**

The BATMASS project aims to revolutionise the battery value chain in Europe by creating a cross-regional ecosystem based on circular innovations. Its focus is on converting industrial by-products into materials suitable for battery manufacturing, fostering a circular economy.

To achieve this goal, BATMASS is developing a portfolio of pilot and demonstration activities across Europe and promoting the creation of the **Circular Battery Valley**, an interregional innovation investment ecosystem that connects technology providers, industrial actors, investors and regional authorities.

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The project is funded by the European Union under the **Interregional Innovation Investment (I3) Instrument** and brings together **15 partners from four European countries**, covering the entire battery value chain, from research and technology development to industrial deployment.



*A photo taken during the event (standing: Pierre Padilla, N-ABLE; seated: Justo Garcia, Orano; Emily Ritchey, T&E; Nina Carretero, UPCCELL Alliance; Donia Marzougui, Verkor).*

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