



# Green Agenda for the Western Balkans

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Balkan Rural Parliament

15 June 2021

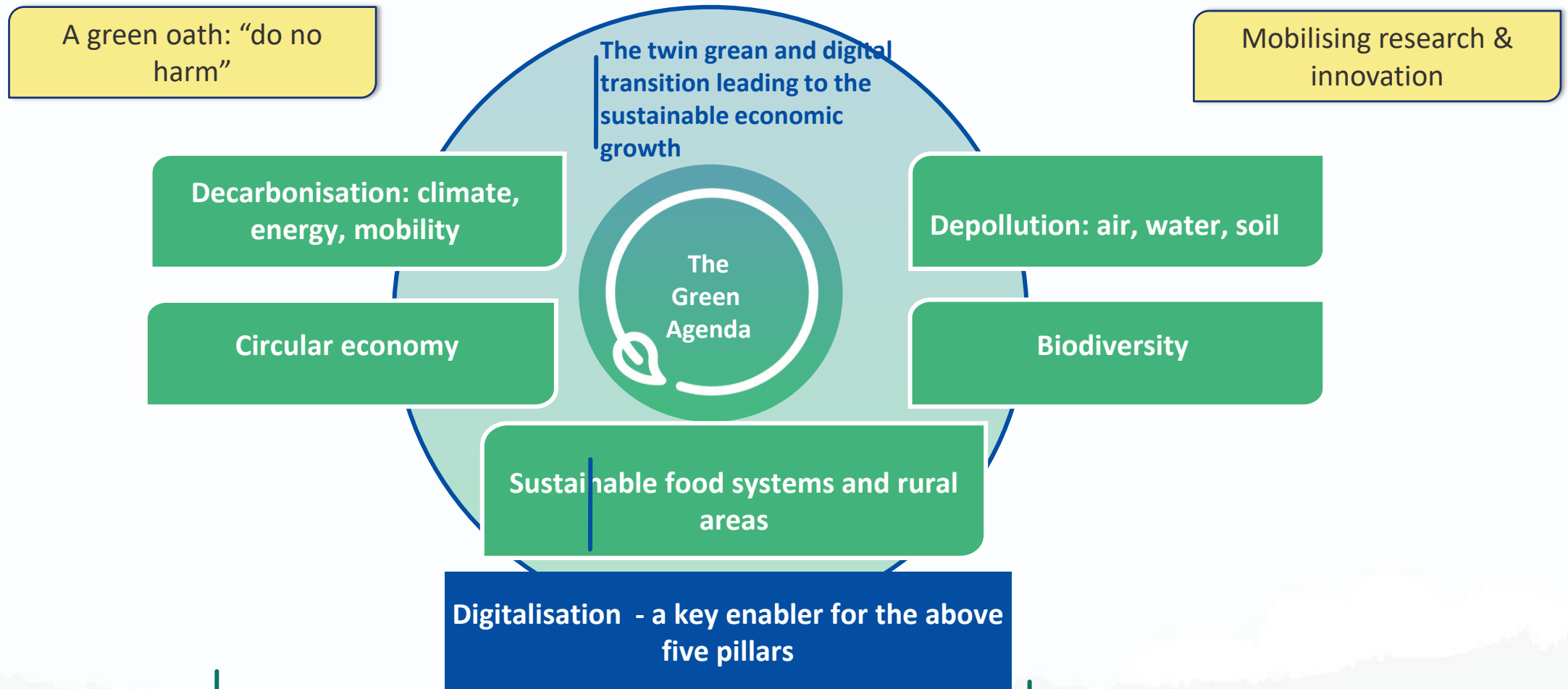
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Unit E.5 Pre-accession assistance

# The Green Agenda – the five pillars



## *Decarbonisation & circular economy*

### **Decarbonisation**

- GHG emissions reduction & climate adaptation strategies
- Economic growth decoupled from resource use;
- Baseline for the WB emissions level and their sources;
- Diversified renewable energy sources & energy efficiency

### **Circular economy**

- Maintaining resources in the economy for as long as possible
- Waste transformed into high-quality resources;
- Investing in waste management infrastructure & in public awareness

## *Depollution & Biodiversity*

### **Depollution**

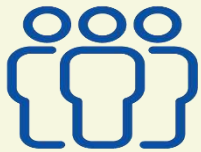
- Reducing air pollution including from agriculture; air quality strategies;
- Addressing pressures on water: quality (nitrates and pesticides) & water quantity; water legislation & waste and manure management;
- Responding to land degradation and soil erosion.

### **Biodiversity**

- Mainstreaming nature and biodiversity into other policies; aligning WB policies with the EU Biodiversity Strategy & strengthening regional cooperation;
- Encouraging an effective afforestation & forest restoration to improve sustainable forest management (CO2 absorption and the bioeconomy);
- Promoting nature-based solutions

# *Sustainable food systems and rural areas - main initiatives*

## Challenges



- Aligning with EU standards
- Strengthening the sanitary controls to ensure food safety
- Promoting environmentally friendly and organic farming
- Supporting cooperation to facilitate transfer of innovative & environmentally friendly technologies
- Reducing waste in rural areas
- Implementing sustainable development of rural areas

## *Mechanisms of implementation*

Mainstreaming environment and climate in relevant policy areas & setting wide environmental governance framework

Aligning national law with the EU legislation, incl. with EU acquis on organic production

Defining minimum standards for good agricultural and environmental condition of land

Reducing the chemical input by establishing the baseline situation and a reliable monitoring system

Developing farm advisory services & strengthening national regulatory efforts incl. on research, innovation

Supporting short food supply chains and quality products & economic diversification

Establishing a proper regulatory framework for waste management

Strengthening institutions ensuring compliance with standards

Source of funding: IPARD but also other funds (donors) & national funds

# IPARD 2021-2027 tools for Green Agenda



European  
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## *The role of IPA & IPARD in implementing Green Agenda*

- IPA framework with specific windows addressing the implementation of the Green Agenda & encouraging development of renewable energy sources, shift to resource-efficient and sustainable low-carbon economies and environmental protection.
- Sustainable agriculture and food production as the centerpiece of IPARD programmes.
- The implementation of the Green Agenda objectives provide numerous benefits:
  - the health and wellbeing of the citizens,
  - the region attractiveness for investments and tourism,
  - the economic and job opportunities of the green growth and circular economy.



THANK YOU

