



The new LIFE Programme Sub-programmes and types of projects funded



15 June 2022

The new LIFE programme

- The LIFE programme as a whole constitutes a 100% contribution to the objectives and targets of the European Green Deal.
- The only EU programme dedicated exclusively to the environment, nature conservation and climate action.
- For the years 2021-2027, a budget of 5.43 billion €.
- The multiannual work programme for 2021-2024 was adopted in July 2021.



The LIFE Programme 2021-2027

To contribute to the shift to a circular, energy-efficient, renewable energy based- and climate resilient economy

To protect and improve the quality of the environment

To halt and reverse biodiversity loss



Nature and Biodiversity
2.143 M€



Circular Economy and Quality of Life
1.345 M€



Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
947 M€



Clean Energy Transition
997 M€

Projects

- Develop and demonstrate eco-innovative techniques and approaches
- Promote best practices and behavioral changes
- Help to implement and enforce plans and strategies, in compliance with EU legislation.
- Catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful solutions

•Contributes to policies and legislation development, monitoring and enforcement

- Help Member States to improve their implementation

Project beneficiaries are:

Private enterprises
NGOs and civil society organisations
Public authorities



Sub-programme Nature and Biodiversity



**Nature and
Biodiversity**

Contribution to:

- Halting and reversing biodiversity loss.
- Supporting Natura 2000 network and Prioritised Action Frameworks.
- Mainstreaming nature and biodiversity objectives into other policies and financing programmes.

Typical actions

Projects supporting nature conservation and restoration in the Natura 2000 network.

Species protection.

Invasive Alien Species

Ecosystem restoration and much more ...

Integrated implementation of PAF and Biodiversity Strategy



Sub-programme Circular Economy and Quality of life



Circular Economy
and Quality of Life

Contribution in the areas of:

- circular economy, noise, air, chemicals, green and circular economy, industrial accidents, marine and coastal management, noise, soil, waste, water, and the urban environment.

Typical actions

Support to public authorities and other stakeholders to implement EU environment legislation.

Support to technologies and solutions that are ready to be implemented in close-to-market conditions, at industrial or commercial scale, during the project duration.

Integrated projects beyond air, water, waste to other areas such as circular economy.

Promote upscale and access to finance.



Sub-programme Climate Mitigation and Adaptation



Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Contribution to:

- The transformation of the European Union into a climate-neutral and -resilient society, especially through:
- Climate Change Mitigation
- Climate Change Adaptation & Related Governance



On **climate mitigation**, projects that contribute significantly to the implementation of:

- the 2030 energy and climate policy
- the EU Member States' National Energy and Climate Plans
- European Union's mid-century and long-term climate and energy strategy

On **climate adaptation**:

- projects that support the implementation of the new EU adaptation strategy and related national implementation

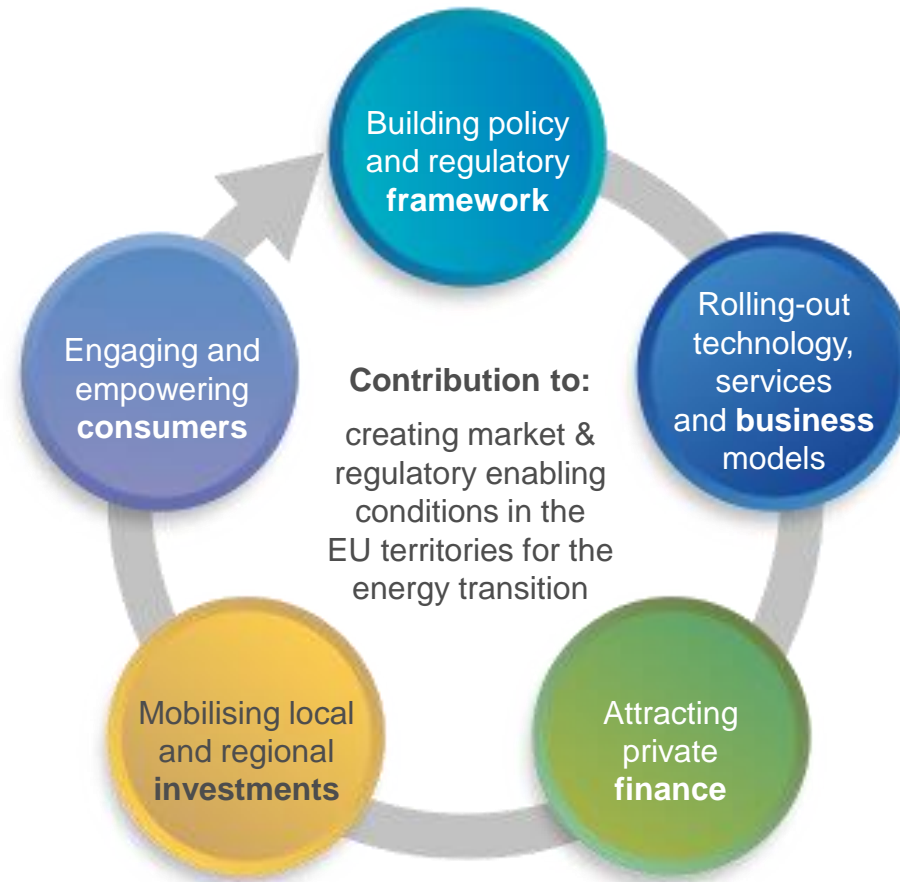


The sub-programme Clean Energy Transition

predecessors: Intelligent Energy Europe continued under H2020- SC3- market uptake



Clean Energy Transition



Type of activities: developing and spreading best practice, mobilising investments, improving skills, removing market barriers, raising awareness, educating, empowering.



Clean Energy Transition: areas of intervention



Clean Energy Transition

- Building a national, regional and local **policy framework** supporting the clean energy transition
- Accelerating **technology roll-out, digitalisation, new services and business models** and enhancement of the related **professional skills** on the market
- Attracting private **finance** for sustainable energy

- Supporting the development of local and regional **investment** projects
- Involving and **empowering citizens** in the clean energy transition



Who can apply?

Entities eligible are:

- a public or private legal entity registered in the EU or an overseas country or territory linked to it;
- a third country associated to the LIFE programme; or
- a legal entity created under Union law or any international organisation.

Natural persons are not eligible to apply.

Legal entities established in a third country which is not associated to the LIFE Programme may exceptionally be eligible to participate where this is necessary for the achievement of the objectives of a given action to ensure the effectiveness of interventions carried out in the Union. However, those legal entities shall in principle bear the cost of their participation.



Types of activities funded under LIFE

Grants

- **Action grants:**
 - Standard action projects (SAPs)
 - Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs)
 - Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)
 - Technical Assistance (TA)
 - Other actions (OA) – including Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)
- **Operating grants** *(not in this call)*

Other Forms of Funding

- **Procurement** *(not in this call)*
- **Prizes** *(not in this call)*
- **Blending** *(not in this call)*



Standard action projects (SAPs)

- **‘Traditional’ LIFE projects aimed to:**
 - develop, demonstrate and promote innovative techniques, methods and approaches;
 - contribute to the knowledge base and to the application of best practices;
 - support the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of the relevant Union legislation and policy, including by improving governance at all levels, in particular through enhancing capacities of public and private actors and the involvement of civil society;
 - catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful technical and policy related solutions for implementing the relevant Union legislation and policy by replicating results, integrating related objectives into other policies and into public and private sector practices, mobilising investment and improving access to finance
- **Co-financing rate of 60% maximum except:**
 - 67% for project targeting both priority and non-priority habitats and/or species
 - 75% for projects targeting exclusively priority habitats and/or species
- **Maximum 10-year duration**
- **One stage application procedure: deadline 4 October 2022**



Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs)

- **Focused on the implementation of**
 - the Prioritised Action Frameworks pursuant to the Habitats Directive
 - other plans or strategies adopted at international, national, regional or multiregional level by nature and biodiversity authorities
- **Co-financing rate of 60% maximum**
- **Maximum 14-year duration**
- **Two Stage application procedure:**
 - concept Note by 8 September 2022**
 - Full proposal by 30 March 2023**



Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)

- **Co-financing rate of 60% maximum**
- **Maximum 14-year duration**
- **Circular Economy and Quality of Life:**
 - Circular Economy: National or Regional Circular Economy Action Plans, Strategies, Roadmaps or similar
 - Waste: National and regional Waste Management Plans (WMPs) and/or Waste Prevention Programmes (WPPs)
 - Water: River basin management plans (RBMPs), Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) or Marine Strategies
 - Air: Air quality plans pursuant to the Ambient Air Quality Directive or National Air Pollution Control Programmes (NAPCP)
- **Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation:**
 - National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP, Regulation on the governance of the energy union and climate action (EU)2018/1999);
 - National Energy Efficiency Action Plans' (NEEAP);
 - National or regional adaptation strategies or action plans;
 - Urban or community-based action plans pioneering the transition to a climate neutral and/or climate resilient society;
 - National, regional or industry-/sector-specific greenhouse gas mitigation strategies or economy roadmaps contributing to climate neutrality
- **Two Stage application procedure:**
 - concept Note by 8 September 2022
 - Full proposal by 30 March 2023



Operating grants for NGOs

- **Two-steps application**
 - Framework partnership agreement (FPA) - successful applicants sign a long-term agreement (3 years – 2022-2024)
 - Specific grant agreement (SGA). Only organisations that sign an FPA can be considered for SGA
- **Co-financing rate of 70% maximum**
- **Maximum 1 year duration for SGAs**
- **Deadline : 21 September 2022**



Technical assistance projects (TA)

- **TA-PP: support to the preparation of SNAPs and SIPs (TA-PP)**
 - Co-financing rate of maximum 60%, maximum LIFE contribution of EUR 70 000
- **TA-CAP: capacity building of Member States authorities with low effective participation to the LIFE programme**
 - For countries with either low effective participation, i.e. which are among the lowest two-thirds for the number of proposals divided by Member State factor (specific calculation mode) or for the success rate
 - 1 project per country maximum for 2021-24
 - Co-financing rate of maximum 95%
- **Maximum 5-year duration for all TA projects**
- **Deadline for submission: 8 November**



Other action grants

- Coordination and Support Actions for the transition to renewable energy and increased energy efficiency.
- A Small Grant Facility on Biodiversity (BEST); small grants (max EUR 100 000, 100% EU funding) in the Outermost Regions and the Overseas Countries and Territories for biodiversity (no call in 2022).
- Action grants benefitting the organisations mentioned in Annex I of the LIFE Regulation
- Co-financing rate of 95% maximum, except Small Grant Facility on Biodiversity (100%)



Other action grants – Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)

- CSAs are the standard type of grant for the CET sub-programme
- Breaking market barriers to the clean energy transition through capacity building, dissemination of information and knowledge, awareness raising
- Policy-driven, prescriptive call topics
 - A tightly pre-defined scope of the proposal;
 - Engagement of multiple stakeholders and large transnational consortiums;
 - EU-widely validated results feeding into EU policy making;
- Co-financing rate of 95% maximum
- Usual duration of projects between 18 and 36 months
- No infrastructure costs, mainly labor costs
- Deadline for submission: 16 November





Applying successfully for LIFE: how does it work?



15 June 2022

Key Challenges



- There is **significant competition** for LIFE funds
- New **IT environment** and **applications forms**
- Proposals that **fail are either poorly prepared** or simply with limited ambition or risk taking
- But: Key to success is always the same!



Must read

- LIFE Web site https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en – **LIFE project database**
- **Call documents** ([Funding & tender opportunities portal](#))
- **LIFE Regulation and Multi-annual work-programme**
- Eventually, specific information, guidelines designed by your **National Contact Point**



Project Design - I

- **Baseline description should be clear** enough as it is essential for evaluating the potential of the project (AW1)
- The **sequence of actions should be logical** and clearly linked to project description (AW1 - AW2)
- Expected results and quantitative **estimations of projects impacts** (during and after project end) (AW3)



Project Design - II

- **Activities/plans to ensure sustainability** of the project results are absolutely crucial! (AW3)
- **Uptake and Replication** needs to be taken into account and **related project actions** need to be well conceived (AW3)
- Clear **description of beneficiary involved** in specific actions (AW2 - AW4)



Project Design - III

- Limit the number of **actions to the ones essential to achieve the project objectives**
- Coherence in **description and output in Part B and in the Work Packages**
- **Partnership** structure: look for complementarity and avoid redundancy of expertise (key stakeholders should be involved)
- Project duration should take into account:
 - Sufficient time to **gather information** about the impact of project activities
 - Delays in **obtaining permits and authorisations**



Project Design Full Proposal

Good design

Solid analysis of the problem, state of play and solution proposed (baseline)

Key stakeholders involved (incl. users)

Robust assessment of impacts over the life cycle of the solution proposed

Clear strategy on how to sustain and multiply the impacts

Common problems

Insufficient background information (why, who and how)

Rationale for projects is defined during the project

Objectives too broad, too many

Poor partnership (partners don't fit regarding know-how or insufficient budget)

Over-optimistic / unrealistic or lack of quantification of impacts

Replication confused with networking and dissemination

Vague plans to sustain the project/results after project end



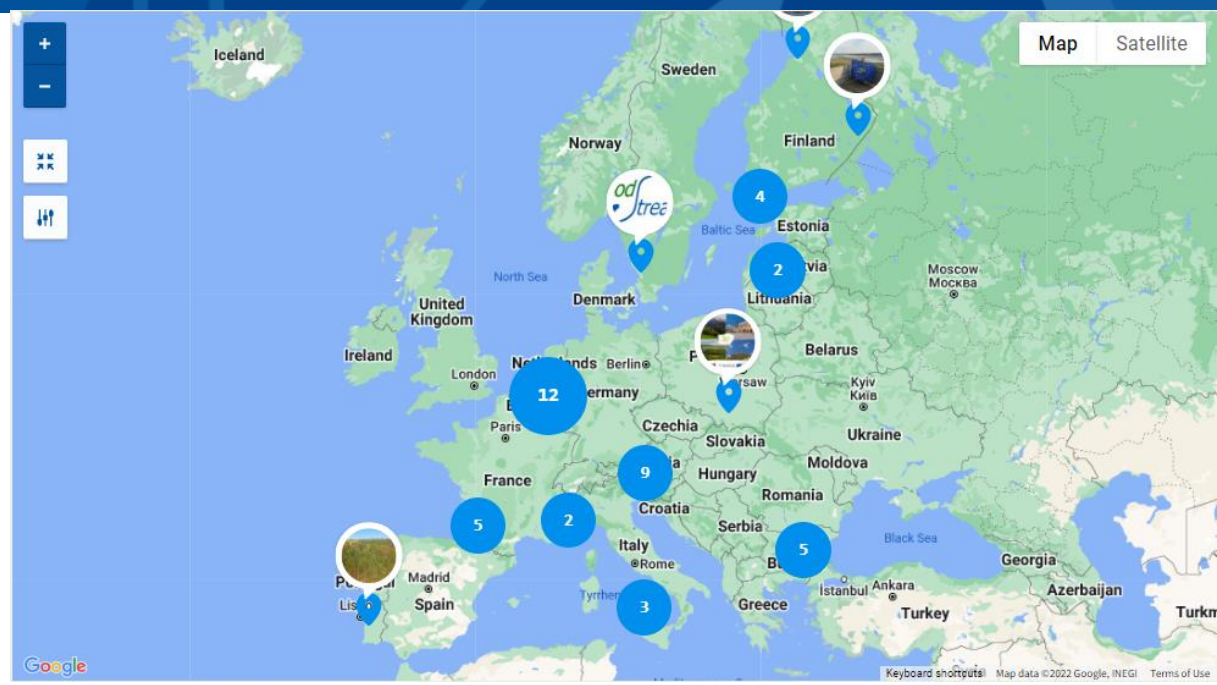
30 years
of bringing
green ideas to LIFE



LIFE 30th
anniversary



<https://www.lifeis30.eu/>



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Thank you





Standard Action Projects
Strategic Integrated Projects
Technical Assistance Projects
NGO operating grants



LIFE Info Day 2022

Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

There are 3 calls for LIFE SAP:

- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity
 - LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life
 - LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
-
- One stage application procedure: Full proposal to be submitted **by 4 October 2022**



Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

Award Criteria

There are 4 Award Criteria:

- 1) Relevance
- 2) Quality
- 3) Impact
- 4) Resources

Possible bonus points:

- Synergies between LIFE sub-programmes
- Outermost Regions and areas with specific needs and vulnerabilities
- Up-scaling results of other European Union funded projects
- Exceptional catalytic potential
- Transnational cooperation among Member States

- The award criteria are scored 0-20 and the score of criterion 'Impact' will be given a weight of 1,5.
- The bonuses are based on yes/no criteria. They do not foresee a graduation: either 0 or 2 points are assigned to each proposal



Award criteria

1. Relevance (0-20 points)

- Relevance of the contribution to one or several of the specific objectives of the LIFE programme and the targeted sub-programme;
- Extent to which the project is in line with the description included in the call for proposals, including, where relevant, its specific priorities;
- Soundness of the overall intervention logic;
- Extent to which the project offers co-benefits and promotes synergies with other policy areas relevant for achieving environment and climate policy objectives.



Award criteria

2. Quality (0-20 points)

- Clarity, relevance and feasibility of the work plan;
- Appropriate geographic focus of the activities;
- Quality of the plan to monitor and report impacts;
- Identification and mobilisation of the relevant stakeholders;
- Appropriateness and quality of the proposed measures to communicate and disseminate the project and its results to different target groups.



Award criteria

3. Impact (0-20 points)

- Ambition and credibility of impacts expected during and/or after the project due to the proposed activities, including potential negative impacts on the other specific objectives of the LIFE programme, including ensuring that no substantial harm is done to those objectives.
- Sustainability of the project results after the end of the project.
- Potential for the project results to be replicated in the same or other sectors or places, or to be up-scaled by public or private actors or through mobilising larger investments or financial resources (catalytic potential).
- Quality of the measures for the exploitation of project results.



Award criteria

4. Resources (0-20 points)

- Composition of the project team - of a consortium or of a sole beneficiary - in terms of expertise, skills and responsibilities and appropriateness of the management structure.
- Appropriateness of the budget and resources and their consistency with the proposed work plan.
- Transparency of the budget, i.e. the cost items should be sufficiently described.
- Extent to which the project environmental impact is considered and mitigated, including through the use of green procurement. The use of recognised methods for the calculation of the project environmental footprint (e.g. PEF or OEF methods or similar ones) or environmental management systems (e.g. EMAS) would be an asset.
- Value-for-money of the proposed project.



Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs)

There is 1 call for LIFE Integrated Project covering:

- **SNAPs:**
(LIFE Nature and Biodiversity)
- **SIPs:**
(LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life
LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation)

**Two Stage application
procedure:**

- **Concept Note by
8 September 2022**
- **Full proposal by
30 March 2023**



Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs)

Criteria

Concept Note stage

- 1) Implementation of eligible plans or strategies
 - 2) Territorial coverage
 - 3) Coordination of complementary funds
 - 4) Involvement of key stakeholders
- These are yes/no criteria. Concept note must meet all four criteria for the applicant to be invited to present full proposal.

Full proposal stage award criteria

- 1) Relevance
 - 2) Quality
 - 3) Complementary funding
 - 4) Impact
 - 5) Resources
- The award criteria are scored 0-20, the weight of all the criteria is the same.



Award criteria

3. Complementary funding (0-20 points)

- Level of mobilisation of other funds complementary to the LIFE project foreseen (beyond the minimum necessary for eligibility) as well as the likelihood of their actual mobilisation and their functional link to the plan or strategy to be implemented
- Quality of the coordination mechanism for the optimal use of other funds, in particular Union funds, necessary to implement targeted strategy / plan
- Identification, relevance and feasibility of the necessary complementary actions



Technical Assistance Projects (TAs)

There is one TA call open: TA-PP: support to the preparation of SNAPs and SIPs (TA-PP)

- One stage application procedure:
Full proposal to be submitted **by 8 September 2022**



Technical Assistance Projects (TA-PP) Award Criteria

There are 3 Award Criteria:

- Relevance
- Quality
- Resources

The award criteria are scored 0-20
and all the criteria have
the same weight.



Operating grants for NGOs

- **Two-step application**

- Framework partnership agreement (FPA) - successful applicants sign a long-term agreement (3 years – 2022-2024)

Submission deadline: 21 September 2022

- Specific grant agreement (SGA). Only organisations that sign an FPA can be considered for SGA

Submission deadline: 21 September 2022



Operating grants - Criteria

There are 5 Award Criteria:

- Relevance
- EU policy shaping
- EU policy implementation
- Sensor function
- Organizational development

Each criterion will be scored on a range of 0 to 20 points. There is no minimum pass score for individual criteria.

The score of criterion

4) “Sensor function” will be given a weight of 0,25.

The score of criterion

5) “Organisational development” will be given a weight of 0,75.



All LIFE 2022 Calls - Admissibility Criteria

- Proposals must be submitted before the call deadline
- Proposals must be submitted electronically via the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System
- Proposals (including annexes and supporting documents) must be submitted using the forms provided inside the Submission System
- Project acronym — Your project acronym must include the word LIFE.
- Your application must be readable, accessible and printable.
- Page limit must be respected - please do not delete the instructions in the application forms to gain more space



All LIFE 2022 Calls - Eligibility Criteria

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

In order to be eligible, the applicants (beneficiaries and affiliated entities) must:

- be legal entities (public or private bodies)
- be established in one of the eligible countries, i.e.:
 - EU Member States (including overseas countries and territories (OCTs))
 - non-EU countries: listed EEA countries and countries associated to the LIFE Programme (associated countries) or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature
- The coordinator must be established in an eligible country.
- Beneficiaries and affiliated entities must register in the Participant Register — before submitting the proposal
- Other entities may participate in other consortium roles, such as associated partners, subcontractors, third parties giving in-kind contributions, etc
- There might specific consortium composition requirements applicable to certain calls. These are listed in the relevant call document.



All LIFE 2022 Calls - Eligibility Criteria

Geographic location (target countries)

- Proposals must relate to activities taking place in the eligible countries. Projects with activities outside the EU must be necessary to achieve EU environmental and climate objectives and ensure the effectiveness of interventions carried within the EU (e.g. actions aimed at the conservation of migratory birds in wintering areas, actions implemented on a trans boundary river, or projects aimed to address environmental problems that cannot be solved successfully or efficiently unless actions are carried out also in non-EU countries).



All LIFE 2022 Calls - Eligibility Criteria

The following activities are not considered as eligible for LIFE funding:

- research;
- statutory responsibilities of the competent authority;
- activities outside the duration of the project;
- activities which are not clearly related to the objective(s) of the project
- Compensation measures

