

LIFE Call 2023

Priorities & project examples



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IT LIFE Info Days 2 May 2023

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

The 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.
- LIFE is over 30 years 'young'
- For the years 2021-2027, a budget of 5.43 billion €.
- The multiannual work programme for 2021-2024 was adopted in July 2021.
- Call 2023 budget: 611 million €







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



Circular Economy and Quality of Life



Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



Clean Energy Transition

Projects

- Develop and demonstrate innovative techniques and approaches to solving environmental challenges
- Help to implement plans and strategies, required by EU legislation.
- Promote best practices and behavioral changes
- Catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful solutions

Impact

- Support the development, monitoring and implementation of EU energy, environment & climate policy
- Provide models to copy and upscale

Project beneficiaries are:

- 1/3 private enterprises
- 1/3 NGOs and civil society organisations
- 1/3 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 or other plans under the Biodiversity Strategy; mainstreaming biodiversity

Financing of small-scale grants, particularly in Overseas Countries and Territories and Outermost Regions





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





Calls 2023 – Overview

Call	Enveloppe indicative (M€)	Opening date	Closing date	Indicative grant signature date
SAP – Nature and Biodiversity	148,4	18/04/23	06/09/23	June 2024
SAP – Circular economy and quality of life	81	18/04/23	06/09/23	June 2024
SAP –Climate Mitigation and Adpatation	66,3	18/04/23	21/09/23	June 2024
CSA – Clean Energy Transition	99	11/05/23	16/11/23	June 2024





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

OTHER FORMS OF FUNDING

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





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

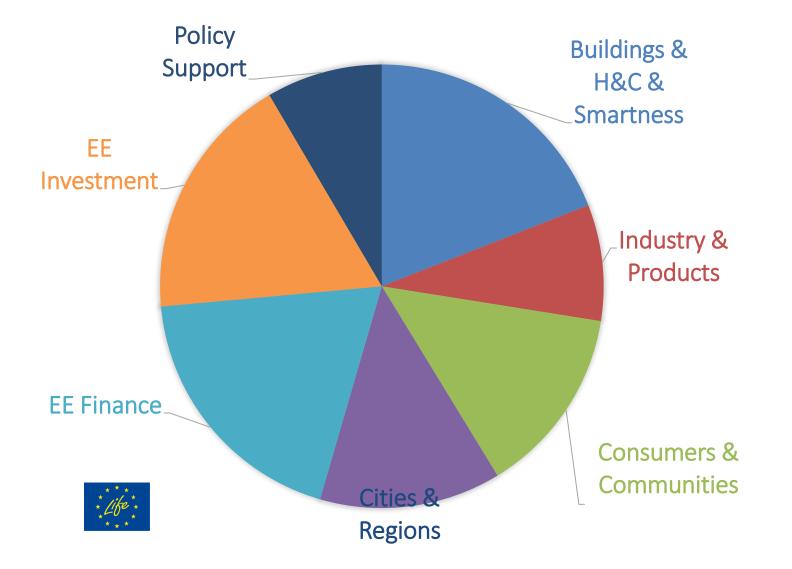
Involving and **empowering citizens** in the clean energy transition





H2020 and LIFE Clean Energy Transition projects

(280+ ongoing projects, status March 2023)



Implement projects with impacts such as

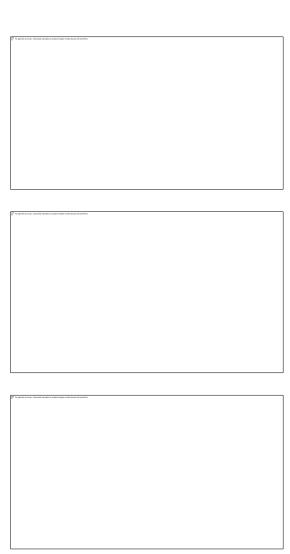
- Decarbonisation of building stock: 20% reduction of renovation time compared to national standards
- Home renovation: Operate large scale integrated services for home renovation
- Consumers: Set up of innovative support schemes for energy communities
- Finance: Launch new green finance products for home-owners



LIFE CET - support for key legislation & initiatives

- Member States Concerted Actions for Renewable Directive, Energy Efficiency Directive, Building Directive, Product Legislation, Defence Forum
- Strategic tenders and initiatives e.g. European Sustainable Energy
 Week (EUSEW), Product market surveillance, Building Stock
 Observatory, Sustainable Energy Investment Forum, Managenergy,
 Build up Portal, European City Facility
- **Policy support actions** e.g. Multiple benefits, Energy efficiency First principle, ODYSEE MURE, the comprehensive monitoring of efficiency trends and policy evaluation in EU countries





LIFE CET – Call 2023 Funding topics (I)

Citizens in the clean energy transition

- Supporting European households to alleviate energy poverty and vulnerability
- European Energy Communities Facility

Decarbonisation of buildings and H&C

- Energy Performance of Buildings
- District heating and cooling: investment plans and skills
- Boosting heat pump deployment: alternative models and skilled installers

Building skills and capacity of industry and the service sector

- BUILD UP Skills Upskilling and reskilling
- Supporting the clean energy transition of European businesses

LIFE CET – Call 2023 Funding topics (II)

Building a national, regional and local policy framework supporting the clean energy transition

- Cites and regions:
 Technical support to clean energy transition plans and strategies in municipalities and regions
- Effective implementation of key legislation in the field of sustainable energy
- Maximising use of and valorising EPREL data

Facilitating investment projects at local and regional level

- One-Stop-Shops -Integrated services for buildings and businesses
- Project Development Assistance

Attracting private finance for sustainable energy

 Crowding in private finance: Mainstreaming and Innovative financing schemes

Overview of the Business Topic (H2020-EE-CSA)

(2014 – 2015) EE-16 Organisational innovation to increase energy efficiency in Industry (CSA)

Objectives:

- Energy-intensive industries (70% of the total industrial energy use)
- Promoting the use of EMS (ISO 50001)











(2017)

EE-15 Increasing capacity for actual implementation of energy efficiency measures in industry and services



Multiple benefits of energy efficiency









- Addressing also the Tertiary sector
- Energy audits as de-risking tools

(2018 – 2019) EE-08 Capacity Building programs supporting the implementation of Energy Audits

Objectives:

- Multiple benefits to leverage sustainable investments
- Audit supporting schemes for SMEs



















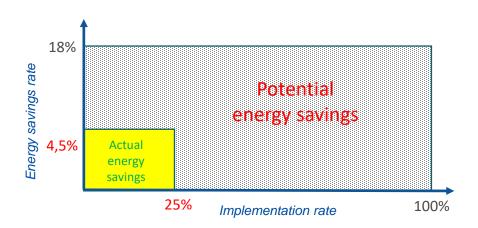
European

Actual VS Potential energy savings



Energy Audits:

- > Important tool to ovecome information gaps
- Promotifing BATs and BAPs
- > Enabling companies to positioning among peers
- ➤ Low implemtation rate of recommended EE measures:
 - > Lack of regulatory obligations
 - > Lack of capital and financial support
 - ➤ Lack of strategic perception and awareness

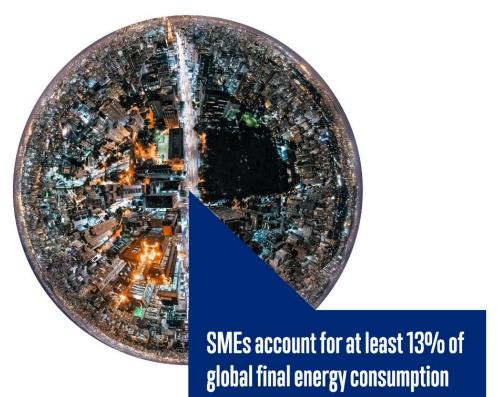






LEAP4SME: Energy Audit policies to drive Energy Efficiency

The National Energy Agencies of Austria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, United Kingdom (09/2020 – 08/2023)



THE CHALLENGE

SMEs are the backbone of Europe's economy and play a fundamental role in world economies. Their energy consumption, although relatively low at individual level, is high when considered collectively.

According to IEA analysis, SMEs account for at least 13% of global final energy consumption annually (74 EJ) – about one third of the industry and services energy demand.

The unlocked energy savings that could be achieved in SMEs with existing best available technologies and practices is up to the 30% of their consumption.

Energy efficiency actions lead to energy savings that have a positive economic impact on the SMEs and a series of indirect benefits such as reduction of waste generation, water consumption, GHG emissions and an improvement of the working environment.





LEAP4SME: Energy Audit policies to drive Energy Efficiency

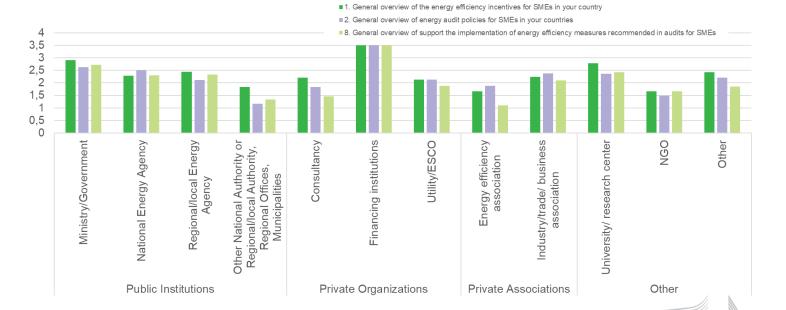
The National Energy Agencies of Austria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, United Kingdom (09/2020 – 08/2023)

Survey to 170 energy senior experts

- Both energy efficiency incentives and energy audit policies for SMEs are insufficiently adequate
- Energy efficiency incentives and (particularly) energy audit policies for SMEs appear to be more negatively assessed by private than public organizations
- It would be useful to objectively categorize SMEs according to size, sector and consumption
- The opinion about policies for energy audits seems sensibly more negative at regional/local level than at national level



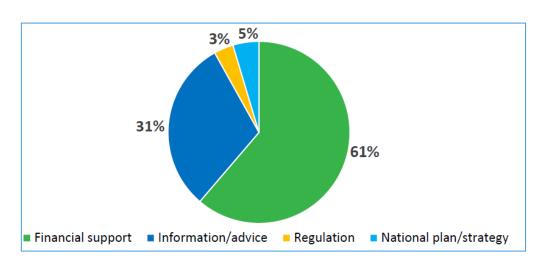
Deliverables | LEAP4SME





LEAP4SME: Energy Audit policies to drive Energy Efficiency

The National Energy Agencies of Austria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, United Kingdom (09/2020 – 08/2023)



Barriers	Size of SME				
	Micro	Small	Medium		
Access to finance	Challenging – providing guarantee for accessing credit e.g., microloans	Moderately challenging	Not challenging – more likely to have financial reserves. Internal departments that manage business finances		
Energy consumption data	Moderately challenging – usually simple energy consumption data / locally accessed	Moderately challenging – may not receive metered consumption	Challenging – more complex organisational consumption		
Lack of resource (finance, time, expertise)	Challenging	Challenging	Moderately challenging		
Energy efficiency opportunities	Challenging	Challenging	Moderately challenging		

Outcomes and preliminary recommendations:

- Further evaluate a combined approach with a mix of different instruments
- · Assess the effectiveness of focused obligations for SMEs to conduct energy audits
- Simplification of application processes, as well as support for SMEs during the application phase
- Sector specific policy instruments & assessment of tailor-made approaches at the intersection of firms size and specific aspects of energy/climate investment
- Awareness raising and communication of existing policy instruments for SMEs
- Create linkages between audits and wider support programmes
- Strong standards for auditors and their outputs





LIFE CET Business 2021 and 2022 calls

Two streams were created under the LIFE CET to increase the implementation rate of energy efficiency measures along with RES and Heat Pumps within the business sector

1. Energy Audit Ecosystem

- Local Support: advisory services to increase the uptake of cost-effective energy audits recommendations by businesses
- Policy Support: improve the national and European frameworks to deliver high quality energy audits

2. Sustainable Value chains

- Collaborative approaches: decarbonising and improving the energy performance of companies operating in the same value chain (local/EU level)
- Increasing value: proving the relevance of a value chain approach in terms of value creation for each actor (beyond Net Value Income/free cash flow).





Additional priorities for businesses

- Project Development Assistance for sustainable energy investments
- Innovative financing for energy efficiency
- Promoting One-Stop-Shops delivering integrated services for clean energy transition
- Developing new models of energy cooperation and services among companies (e.g. industrial parks) and within their local community
- Addressing the skill gaps to meet the EU Green Deal Objectives
- Others





LIFE CET Call 2023

Publication: 11th May 2023

• Info Day: 1st June 2023

• Deadline: 16th November 2023

- +/- 100 mEUR available for +/- 55 grants for policy-driven funding topics with detailed guidance
- Most funding topics: minimum of 3 (eligible) entities from 3 different eligible countries (average number of partners is higher) with 95% co-funding rate
- Apply electronically via the EC's <u>Funding & Tender opportunities portal</u>







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https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/history-life/life-contacts/ncps-national-contact-points-clean-energy-transition_en





Types of activities funded under LIFE

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Standard action projects (SAPs)

- 'SAP' LIFE projects aimed to:
 - ✓ develop, demonstrate and <u>promote innovative techniques</u>, <u>methods and approaches</u>;
 - ✓ contribute to the knowledge base and to the <u>application of best practices</u>;
 - ✓ support the **development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement** of the relevant Union legislation and policy, including by improving governance at all levels (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





Innovative solutions and best practice

The call document contains the definitions:

- 'Innovative techniques, methods and approaches, solutions which are new when compared to the state of the art at Member State and sector level
- 'Best practice' means solutions, techniques, methods and approaches which are appropriate, cost-effective and state of the art (at Member State and sector level),
- The benchmark for the state of the art is not EU or World wide anymore BUT Member State/sector level
- The projects we finance must allow the achievement of sufficiently credible and ambitious impacts set out in the award criterion 'Impact' (first paragraph)
 - ✓ Ambition and credibility of impacts expected during and/or after the project due to the activities, including ensuring that no substantial harm is done to the other specific objectives of the LIFE Programme





2023 Call: Scope and priority topics for Circular economy and quality of LIFE

Scope and priority topics

Actions to facilitating the transition toward a sustainable, circular, toxic-free, energy-efficient and climate-resilient economy and at protecting, restoring and improving the quality of the environment

- 1. Circular economy and waste
- 2. Soil
- 3. Air
- 4. Water
- 5. Noise
- 6. Chemicals
- 7. Environmental governance
- 8. New European Bauhaus





2023 Call: Scope and priority topics for Circular economy and quality of LIFE

Scope and priority topics

Proposals linked to topics 1-6 compete among each other

Bauhaus has a dedicated envelope

Env. Gov. has a separate budget

The definition of SAP and the strategic use of 'innovative' in the description of priority topics

Where priority topics are evaluated (Eligibility and Award)





2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Circular economy and waste

Scope and areas of intervention

Recovery of Resources from Waste, Implementation of innovative solutions to support value-added recycled materials, components or products for the following areas:

- ✓ Separate collection and recycling of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in particular but not limited to photovoltaic panels, smartphones, tablets and computers;
- ✓ Separate collection and recycling of batteries and accumulators;
- ✓ Dismantling, remanufacturing and recycling of **End of Life Vehicles (ELVs) and End-of-Life Ships**;
- ✓ Selective separation and recycling of construction works or buildings;
- ✓ Sorting and recycling of plastics;
- ✓ Separate collection and recycling of bio-waste;
- ✓ Separate collection and recycling of textiles;
- ✓ Recycling of **composite and multilayer materials** in particular but not limited to carbon or glass fibres. Special attention should be given to face-masks used by the general public for COVID protection purposes, in such case also best practice solutions will be considered;
- ✓ Recovering critical raw materials from waste
- Sorting and recycling of packaging.





2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Circular economy and waste

Scope and areas of intervention

Recovery of Resources from Waste, Implementation of innovative solutions to support value-added recycled materials, components or products for the following areas:

✓ Implementation of innovative solutions for the identification, tracking, separation, prevention and decontamination of waste containing hazardous substances (e.g. asbestos), to enable value-added recycling of the treated waste and safe disposal of the hazardous substances or reducing the scale of the problem within the framework of the project. Special attention should be given to those substances considered as the most harmful for the environment and human health, also known as substances of concern.





2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Circular economy and waste

Scope and areas of intervention

Circular Economy and the Environment: Implementation of business and consumption models or solutions to support value chains, particularly the key product value chains set out in the new EU Action Plan for the Circular Economy, aiming at reducing or preventing resource use and waste including one or more of the following:

- ✓ design for the environment solutions, including circular design, to improve durability, reparability, reusability, upgradability, recycling and use of recycled content in new products;
- ✓ Solutions (post-design) to support the implementation, transfer and/or uptake of product durability, reuse and repair, including upgrading and remanufacturing;
- ✓ Support to the implementation, transfer and/or uptake of one or more of the following:
 - Product-as-a-service solutions and other business models or technologies to optimise asset use,
 - Industrial symbiosis and creation of circular value chains, better tracking resources and matching surplus or by-product materials or recyclable waste across industrial sectors,
 - Digital product passports.







LIFE Project on bio-waste for biofuel and agri-products production

LIFE STEAM

LIFE18 ENV/IT/000092

Green waste valorisation through innovative low temperature STEAM explosion into advanced biofuel and agri-products



Expected Results:

- Demonstrate more than 90% increased efficiency of the new plant in producing biogas from green waste
- Assessing all the LIFE STEAM environmental benefits through a complete Life Cycle Assessment
- Decrease landfilled waste and the compostable fraction by using biomass for the bioconversion process, reducing emissions and transforming a low-value waste into high-value biofuels
- Contributes to the Waste Framework Directive, Renewable Energy Directive and ILUC Directive

Total budget: 2,499,827.00 € EU contribution: 1,350,154.00 €





Project website: http://www.lifesteam.eu



LIFE Project on carbon fibre reinforce polymer recycling

LIFE CIRCE

LIFE18 ENV/IT/000155

CIRcular economy model for Carbon fibrE prepregs



Expected Results:

- Reuse of waste and scraps from the production of carbon fibre composites reducing landfill and/or incineration and optimize the use of natural resources
- Re-processed carbon fibre prepreg scraps used to produce automotive components, brake discs, toecaps for safety work shoes
- Example of circular economy model through industrial symbiosis
- Direct contribution to the Waste Framework Directive, Circular Economy Action Plan, Industrial Emissions Directive

Total budget: 2,278,694.00 € EU contribution: 1,180,861.00 €

* libe *



Project website: http://www.life-circe.eu

2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Air

Scope and areas of intervention

<u>Air Quality Legislation and NEC Directive</u> Where not explicitly stated otherwise, air quality projects should generally focus on urban areas, or on approaches for rural areas with a large replicability potential in the EU, in order to cover as many people as possible.

- Air quality improvement and emission reduction of particulate matter (PM) in areas:
- ✓ with high use of solid fuel like biomass, coal, and peat for domestic heating, or
- ✓ with high emissions of PM from (re)construction, quarrying, mining, mineral handling, or other dust generating activities, if not covered by the IED
- Sustainable road transport mobility aiming at emissions of air pollutants, the reduction of which is essential for helping meet air quality standards,
 - ✓ Reduction of emissions of air pollutants during real world driving conditions
 - ✓ zero- emission vehicles and related infrastructure ,
 - ✓ the use of innovative logistic or passenger mobility platforms

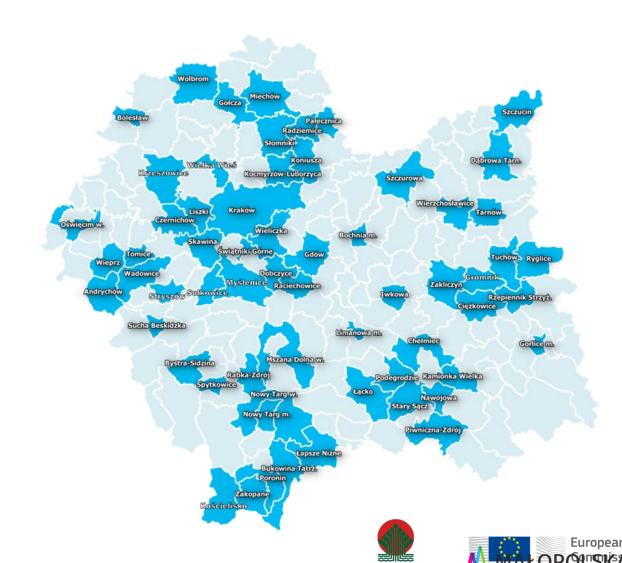




LIFE-IP MAŁOPOLSKA

- The main goal: acceleration of the Air Quality Plan implementation
- 69 partners:
 - 62 municipalities including Krakow
 - Silesian Region
 - Krakow Smog Alert (NGO),
 KAPE National Energy Conservation
 Agency
 - Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute, VITO
- Duration: Oct 2015 Dec 2023

Budget: EUR 16.8 million



for Environmental Protection and Water Management

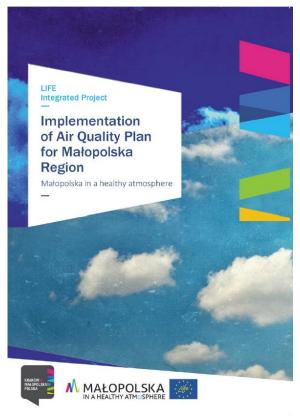
Excellence Centre

Main tasks:

- Trainings and workshops for employees from <u>all municipalities</u>
- Supporting studies and analyses
- Meetings and conferences
- Organisation of postgraduate studies in the field of air protection
- Educational and informational materials
- Project websitewww.powietrze.malopolska.pl













Complementary funds

Additional funding of **EUR 1 billion** for anti-smog actions:

- Replacement of inefficient solid fuel boilers 83,5 mln €
- Thermomodernization of buildings 231 mln €
- Renewable energy sources 163 mln €
- Educational activities in the field of air protection 0,377 mln
- P+R (park and rides) 1,6 mln €
- Low-carbon transport 510 mln €

















LIFE Project on air pollution abatement techniques

GREEN FOUNDRY LIFE

LIFE17 ENV/FI/000173

Green Foundry LIFE

Inorganic binder system to minimize emissions, improve indoor air quality, purify and reuse of contaminated foundry sand

Expected Results:

- Decrease the environmental impact in European foundry industry by demonstrating modern sand moulding based on new inorganic binder systems instead of currently used organic binder systems
- Demonstrating different sand recycling (thermal reclamation and ultrasonic + microwave tehcnologies) and purification methods to increase the reuse of surplus foundry sand (composting, washing methods)
- Up to 80% decrease of hazardous air emissions from the casting process and 15% foundry sand recycling
- Inorganic binder systems included as Best Available Techniques (BAT) in BAT Reference Documents for Smitheries and Foundries under the Industrial Emissions Directive

Total budget: 2,088,998.00 € EU contribution: 1,216,781.00 €





Project website: http://greenfoundry-life.com

2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Noise

Scope and areas of intervention

Substantial **reduction of noise inside densely populated urban** areas through solutions with high environmental and economic sustainability

- ✓ using low noise surfaces and/or tyres having life cycle costs comparable to those of standard surfaces and/or tyres,
- ✓ low height barriers with low landscape impact
- ✓ eco-friendly materials,
- ✓ lowering noise from railway traffic or airports,

Priority will be given to projects in urban areas in order to improve the situation for a maximum number of persons





2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Water Quality and quantity

Scope and areas of intervention

- Improvement of water quality by
- ✓ Integrated management of nutrients and organic pollution of human (urban) and/or agricultural origin by directly removing pollution.
- ✓ Innovative solutions for the reduction of pressures from chemical pollutants in the water environment by reducing emissions of priority substances and other chemicals identified as river basin specific pollutants at source
- Implementation of flood and/or drought risk management actions by applying at least one of the following,
- ✓ Nature-based solutions consisting in natural water retention measures that increase infiltration and storage of water and remove pollutants through natural or "natural-like" processes
- ✓ Innovative prevention and protection tools and techniques for support of policy, land use planning, risk reduction, post-event resilience and emergency management,
- ✓ Innovative integrated risk assessment and management approaches
- Innovative projects addressing hydro morphological pressures identified in RBMPs
- Implementation of innovative water saving measures





LIFE16 ENV/ES/156 - NEWEST

- THE LIFE PROJECT
- Background: the inorganic coagulant "ferric chloride" is commonly used to reduce the phosphorus level in the LIFE PROJECT industrial and urban WWTPs. It is a corrosive and a dangerous product to handle.
- The project proposes a new technology based on natural-based coagulants developed and manufactured by the project, safe for people and environmentally friendly.
- Activities:
 - ✓ design and construction of an industrial-scale production plant (350t, 2 products during the project)
 - ✓ Demonstration: replacement of inorganic coagulants in wastewater treatment
 - ✓ Evaluation of the use of the generated sludge in biomethanation and agricultural applications
- Results: produced 397 tons of the blending product (BEWAT NW3) and 57 tons of the original synthesized product (BEWAT MA), which was used for the project trials.
- PROJECT BUDGET 2.260.073€ EU CO-FUNDING 1.347.627€





LIFE SANDBOIL - LIFE19 ENV/IT/000071



To mitigate the risk of backward erosion piping by means of an innovative, sustainable, natural-based and cost-effective engineering solution.

The intervention is devised to stop the progression of piping beneath the riverbank, which might lead to severe erosion and to the collapse of the structure. By reducing the risk of riverbank collapse, the risk of flooding decreases consequentially

Total project budget: 2,831,933 Euro

• EU financial contribution: 1,552,062 Euro

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5341







2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Marine and costal water management

Scope and areas of intervention

Application of innovative solutions (tools, technologies or practices) to **ensure the protection and conservation of the seas, oceans and their coasts.**

- initiatives aimed at reducing the pressure of human activities on the marine environment, and addressing at least one of the following topics of high concern
- ✓ underwater noise,
- ✓ marine litter and/or contaminants (addressed at source or in the sea giving priority to prevention rather than clean-up),
- ✓ disturbance of and damage to the sea floor,
- ✓ examination & reduction of impacts of deep sea exploitation & exploration,
- ✓ over-fishing and/or incidental by-catch,
- ✓ nutrient and organic matter inputs from agriculture or aquaculture and/or
- ✓ navigation (e.g. dredging navigation channels, shipping highways).





LIFE14 ENV/ES/000852 - LIFE SEACAN



The LIFE SEACAN project will demonstrate the feasibility of applying biofilm-based wastewater treatment systems to reduce the impact of the effluents generated from fish canneries located in coastal zones.

Expected results: The project expects to develop an effluent treatment process with a 25% lower environmental footprint in comparison with conventional treatment processes implemented in fish canneries. In particular, this new process will produce the following concrete environmental benefits:

- Improvement in fish canneries effluent quality, in terms of nitrogen removal up to 90% and COD (chemical oxygen demand) reduced by 95%, achieved by implementing biofilm-based treatments;
- Reduction of the energy input needed to perform the effluent treatment, by at least 20%, in comparison with conventional treatments;
- Total Eligible Budget: 1,721,873 € EU Contribution: 1,033,123 €

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4237





2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for water services

Scope and areas of intervention

- Application of innovative technologies and tools for drinking water and UWWT systems
- ✓ the use of resource efficient processes for the provision of water services ,
- ✓ the use of processes to diminish the presence of pollutants of emerging concern,
- ✓ the treatment of drinking water and/or waste water for reuse
- Application of innovative tools ensuring the resource efficient provision of water services compliant with the revised Drinking Water Directive and the UWWTD to population living in rural areas
- Improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of innovative solutions and/or innovative treatment options regarding recycled/reclaimed water,
- ✓ Source control methods and on-site technologies for decreased discharges of pollutants
- ✓ Systematic approaches to avoid loss of water, energy and resources in industrial production and/or in provision of water services





LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000419 - LIFE LIBERNITRATE

The project focuses on reduction of the concentration of nitrates in the groundwater in rural areas in Spain by using an adsorption bed made of silica obtained from the ashes produced by a controlled burning of rice straw in a pilot specifically designed, constructed and set up by the project consortium.

- Direct purification of at least 26 m3/day of well water, reducing the nitrate concentration below 50 ppm and close to 25 ppm. The prototype will be directly transferrable to municipalities of 200 inhabitants or fewer;
- 30% reduction in the concentration of nitrates in 130 litres/day of water effluent below 50 ppm in drinking water to facilitate compliance with the Nitrates Directive, and in the reject water of a reverse osmosis plant;
- Reduction of 0.97 kWh per m3 of wastewater treated in the osmosis plant;
- A guide for farmers designed to facilitate a 20% reduction in their use of nitrogenated fertilisers; and
- Development of a business plan supporting the replication and transfer of the project and job creation.

Total costs: 2.354.292 € EU Contribution: 1.412.573 €.

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4640







2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Soil

Scope and areas of intervention

Contribute to the soil-related commitments set in the **EU Biodiversity Strategy** towards 2030 and to the implementation of the new **Soil Thematic Strategy**, when adopted.

- Implementation of actions to **protect the quality of EU's soil**, including innovative actions
 - ✓ encourage transition to sustainable practices of soil and land management,
 - ✓ promote and scale up innovative soil and land management techniques to eliminate and prevent adverse effects (erosion, pollution, loss of soil organic carbon, etc.) and negative impacts on soil ecosystem services,
 - ✓ prepare for extreme weather events and combat desertification, by scaling up the implementation of effective nature-based solutions
- Restoration, protection and improvement of **soil health and prevention of soil degradation** including soil loss also through innovative actions:
 - ✓ sustain soil fertility and soil biodiversity, restore them after pollution
 - ✓ apply cost-effective investigation, assessment and remediation solutions for soil contamination,
 - ✓ apply cost-effective solutions to unseal already sealed areas





LIFE17 GIE/IT/000477 - Soil4Life



The project focused on sustainable soil management in a Mediterranean context (Italy, France, Croatia). It promoted sustainable and efficient use of soil to maximise ecosystem services by improving soil-related decision-making processes at national, regional and local levels, and raising awareness among stakeholders, farmers, professionals and citizens. The project achieved its objective to reach around 2 million people through their media campaign.

- Established a permanent consultation board on sustainable soil management, involving Italian regions and municipalities.
- Upgraded digital simulator quantifying ecosystem services provided by soils, and created related maps for the municipalities of Milan and Rome.
- Drafted a White Paper for Soil, addressed to relevant government and ministry actors to promote more sustainable management of urban soils
- Set up 15 regional observatories on land uptake, drafted and promoted the adoption of a Charter of Principles for sustainable soil use
- Trained around 1000 farmers and almost 8000 professionals on sustainable soil management and adoption of sustainable agricultural practices.
- Designed an Italian webtool for the training of Italian farmers on sustainable practises for soil management (http://www.ciaperilsuolo.it).

Total costs: € 2.919.769 EU Contribution: € 1.751.861

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=6792





2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for Chemicals

Scope and areas of intervention

- Prevention and Reduction of the impact on the environment or human health, of hazardous substances
- ✓ Substances identified as being of concern (including endocrine disruptors and persistent substances);
- ✓ combination effects of substances;
- √ nanomaterials:
- ✓ biocidal products and/or pesticides;
- ✓ PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances).
- **Prevention and Reduction** of the impact on the environment or human health of chemical production and use **across the value chain**
- **Digital innovations** for advanced tools, methods and models, and data analysis capacities to also **move away from animal testing**
- Implementation of safe- and sustainable-by-design solutions, including through the development, commercialisation, deployment and uptake of safe- and sustainable-by-design substances, material and product





LIFE20 ENV/BE/000671 - LIFE VIABLE



- The LIFE VIABLE project aims to develop lignin-based epoxy resins on a pre-industrial scale to demonstrate their technical and commercial viability as an alternative to BPA in epoxy resins for high-performance applications. The resins will be tested in the automotive sector, with the overall aim of showing that the environmental and health impacts of BPA can be reduced by lowering its content in the formulation of epoxy resins.
- Specifically, the project aims to:
- Integrate glycidylated lignin oil (GLO) in epoxy-based composite materials, achieving a reduction in the use of BPA of 20 to 50%;
- Manufacture a structural and an aesthetic car components to demonstrate that the lignin-based epoxy resin has similar technical characteristics to commercial materials;
- Adapt industrial processes of the whole value chain for the large-scale production of the composite material;
- · Widely disseminate the project results to end-users, policy-makers and the chemical and biomass industry; and
- Prepare a commercialisation strategy for the project solution, along with its replication for at least two other automotive components (its transfer to four sectors will be studied).

Budget: 3,371,079 € EU Contribution: 1,854,090 €

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5722





2023 Call: Scope and areas of intervention for NEW European Bauhaus

Scope and areas of intervention

New European Bauhaus (NEB) initiative, an environmental, economic and cultural project to combine design, sustainability, accessibility and affordability in order to help deliver the European Green Deal.

- Proposals focused on a holistic reduction of environmental impacts of new buildings.
- Proposals on **circular districts** involving creation of circular value chains to boost urban economies whilst producing urban and territorial regeneration.
- Proposals for **maintaining or restoring biodiversity** that contribute to the implementation of the New European Bauhaus initiative.
 - ✓ demonstrating biodiversity friendly practice for the energetic isolation of buildings,
 - √ innovative architectural approaches for wildlife-friendly buildings,





Scope and areas of intervention

Actions to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions** in the sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading System, including the reduction of use of fluorinated greenhouse gases and ozone-depleting substances

- ✓ Availability of suitable alternatives to fluorinated gases
- ✓ Recovery, reclamation and recycling of fluorinated greenhouse gases
- ✓ Actions to support the shift to zero-emission mobility (in road transport)
- ✓ Decarbonising non-road transport modes, fostering intermodality and modal shift

Actions which **enhance the functioning of the Emissions Trading System** and which have an impact on energy and greenhouse gas intensive industrial production

- ✓ Energy-intensive industries (Ells) and their supply chain
- ✓ Industries which may be exposed to a significant risk of carbon leakage





Scope and areas of intervention

Increase the generation and use of **renewable energy and improvement of energy efficiency** (as far as not covered by specific calls for proposals under the Clean Energy
Transition sub-programme)

✓ RePowerEU - Production of biogas and biomethane from waste and residue streams

The **development of land and sea management practices** which have an impact on emissions and removals of emissions, conservation and enhancement of natural carbon sinks

- ✓ Practices that enhance carbon removals in soils and biomass
- ✓ Practices that protect existing carbon stocks in soils and biomass (e.g. peatland restoration).
- ✓ Use of harvested biomass in long-lasting products to ensure long-term carbon storage
- ✓ Promote a carbon farming approach





Climate Change Mitigation

F-Gases



LIFE18 CCM/IT/001106 - LIFE ICEGREEN



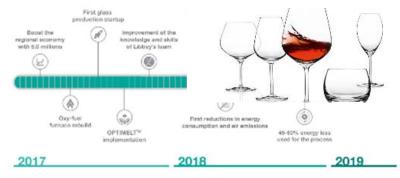
LIFE18 CCM/FR/001096 - LIFE GRID





LIFE18 CCM/PL/001100 - Refrigerants LIFE Cycle

Energy Intensive Industries



LIFE15 CCM/NL/000121 - OPTIMELT



LIFE15 CCM/IT/000104 - ECONOMICK





Scope and areas of intervention

Adaptation policy development, and adaptation strategies and plans

- ✓ should help national, regional and local authorities to further develop and improve effective and science-based adaptation policies and strategies;
- ✓ support to the implementation of the national adaptation policies and the revision of national or regional adaptation strategies and plans;
- ✓ synergies with other funding programmes, and cooperation and networking opportunities under the Common Agricultural Policy.

State-of-the art **tools and solutions** for adaptation

Tool to improve, promote, implement and upscale during project implementation:

- ✓ use of state-of-the-art tools and solutions for adaptation modelling, risk assessment, management and decision support; adaptation monitoring, reporting and evaluation;
- ✓ ex-ante project assessment tools (identify co-benefits, positive impacts on the economy).





Scope and areas of intervention

Nature-based solutions in the management of land, forests, coasts and marine areas

- ✓ to develop and implement the necessary assessments, guidance, capacity building, and suitable financial approaches;
- ✓ quantify the benefits of implemented nature-based solutions and better communicate them to decision-makers to ensure uptake;
- ✓ **leverage more investments in nature-based solutions** to generate gains for adaptation, mitigation, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, and health.

Adapting cities and regions to climate change

- ✓ enhance resilience in a just and fair way, so that the costs and benefits of climate adaptation
 are widely and equitably shared;
- ✓ support the **local uptake of data, digital and smart solutions related to climate adaptation** building on EU-initiatives and instruments (e. g. EU Missions, Climate-ADAPT);
- ✓ support education, training and reskilling initiatives.





Scope and areas of intervention

Climate-proofing and resilience of infrastructure and buildings

- ✓ pilot, roll out and promote solutions to climate-proofing and enhancing the resilience of buildings and infrastructures;
- ✓ synergies with broader work on **disaster risk prevention and reduction**;
- ✓ integration of climate resilience considerations in the construction and renovation of buildings and infrastructure;
- ✓ integration of **climate risks into the assessment of the climate resilience**, under the current and future climate conditions, of the **existing built environment**.
- EU-level technical guidance on adapting buildings to climate change (incl. best practices)







Scope and areas of intervention

Adaptation solutions for **farmers, forest managers, Natura 2000 managers** and other land managers

- ✓ encourage and implement adaptive, resilience-enhancing and climate risk- reducing afforestation, reforestation, forest restoration and forest management systems;
- ✓ encourage the better use of genetic diversity and non-harmful, more climate resilient plants;
- ✓ speed-up **uptake of climate resilience decision support** systems and technical advice;
- ✓ promote the transition to water-saving technologies and practices in agriculture.

Water management

- ✓ ensure climate-resilient, sustainable use and management of water across sectors and borders;
- ✓ reduce water use by raising the **water-saving performance** of products, encouraging water efficiency and savings, and by promoting the **wider use of drought management** etc;
- ✓ guarantee a stable and secure supply of drinking water considering climate risks.





Scope and areas of intervention

Preparedness for extreme weather events

✓ support **preparedness for extreme weather events and their multiple risks** and cascading effects, which foster 'no regret' adaptation solutions with multiple co-benefits

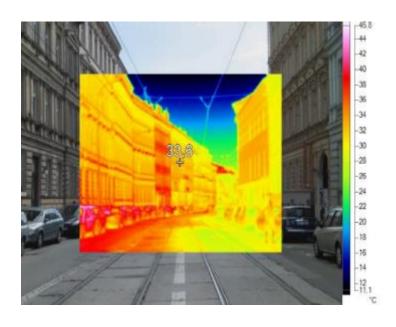
Financial instruments, innovative solutions and public-private collaboration on insurance and loss data

- ✓ identify and implement best practices in financial instruments for risk management;
- ✓ promote and increase natural disaster insurance penetration;
- ✓ strengthen dialogue between insurers, policymakers, local and regional authorities etc;
- ✓ develop and promote innovative solutions to improve natural disaster insurance accessibility.





Climate Change Adaptation



Urban Heat Island

LIFE HEROTILE



High Energy savings in building cooling by ROof TILEs shape optimization toward a better above sheathing ventilation

Reference: LIFE14 CCA/IT/000939





Climate Change Adaptation





Forest fires and dieback

LIFE VAIA



Valuing Afforestation of damaged woods with Innovative Agroforestry
LIFE20 CCA/IT/001630





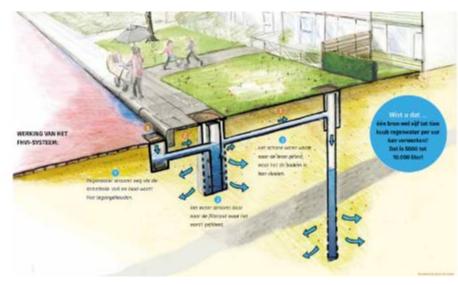
Climate Change Adaptation



Floods and heavy rains



LIFE AERFIT



Adaptation to extreme rainfall; demonstration of Fast High Volume Infiltration (FHVI) to prevent damage by urban pluvial flooding

Reference: LIFE15 CCA/NL/000052



Access to the EC Funding & tender opportunities portal

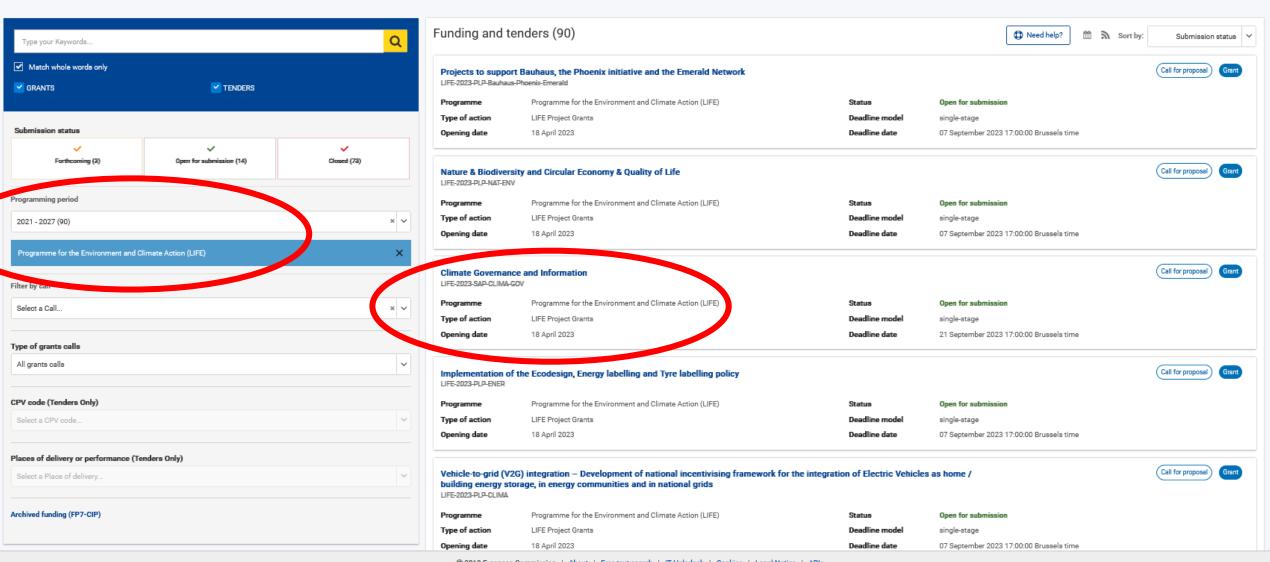


HOW TO PARTICIPATE ▼ PROJECTS & RESULTS WORK AS AN EXPERT SUPPORT ▼

Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)

SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS *





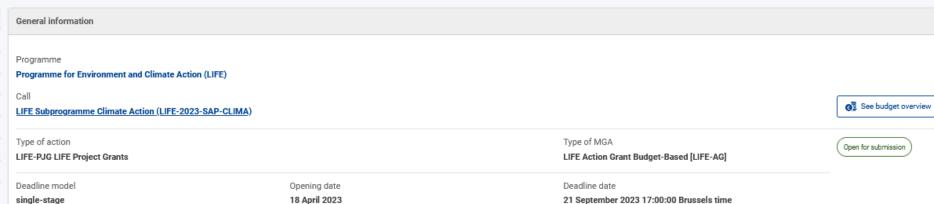
Climate Change Mitigation

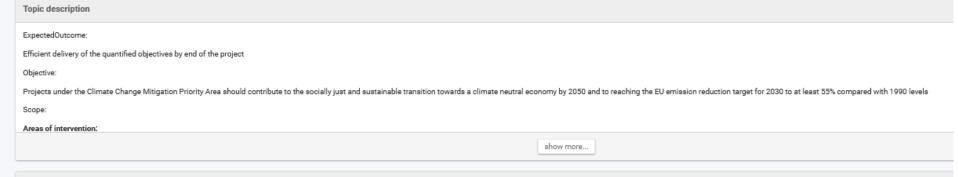
TOPIC ID: LIFE-2023-SAP-CLIMA-CCM



General information Topic description Conditions and documents Partner search announcements Submission service Topic related FAQ Get support Call updates







Topic conditions and documents

Conditions

1. Admissibility conditions: described in section 5 of the call document

Proposal page limits and layout: describe his Part B of the Application Form available in the Submission System

2. Eligible countries: described in section 6 of of the call document







Call document

One Call document per LIFE subprogramme

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

Call document structure

- 0. Introduction
- 1. Background

What is the LIFE Programme?

Nature and Biodiversity

Circular Economy and Quality of Life

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Clean Energy Transition

2. Type of action — Objectives — Themes and priorities — Activities that can be funded — Expected impact

Objectives
Areas of intervention
Scope — Activities that can be funded
Expected impact
Funding rate



- 3. Available buddet
- 4. Timetable and deadlines
- 5. Admissibility and documents
- 6. Eligibility

Eligible parcipants (eligible countries)

Consortium composition

Eligible ctivities

Geographic location (target countries)

Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial capacity

Operational capacity

Exclusion

- 8. Evaluation and award procedure
- 9. Award criteria





Call document structure (2)

10. Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements

Starting date and project duration

Milestones and deliverables

Form of grant, funding rate and maximum grant amount

Budget categories and cost eligibility rules

Reporting and payment arrangements

Prefinancing guarantees

Certificates

Liability regime for recoveries

Provisions concerning the project implementation

Other specificities

Non-compliance and breach of contract

- 11. How to submit an application
- 12. Help
- 13. Important

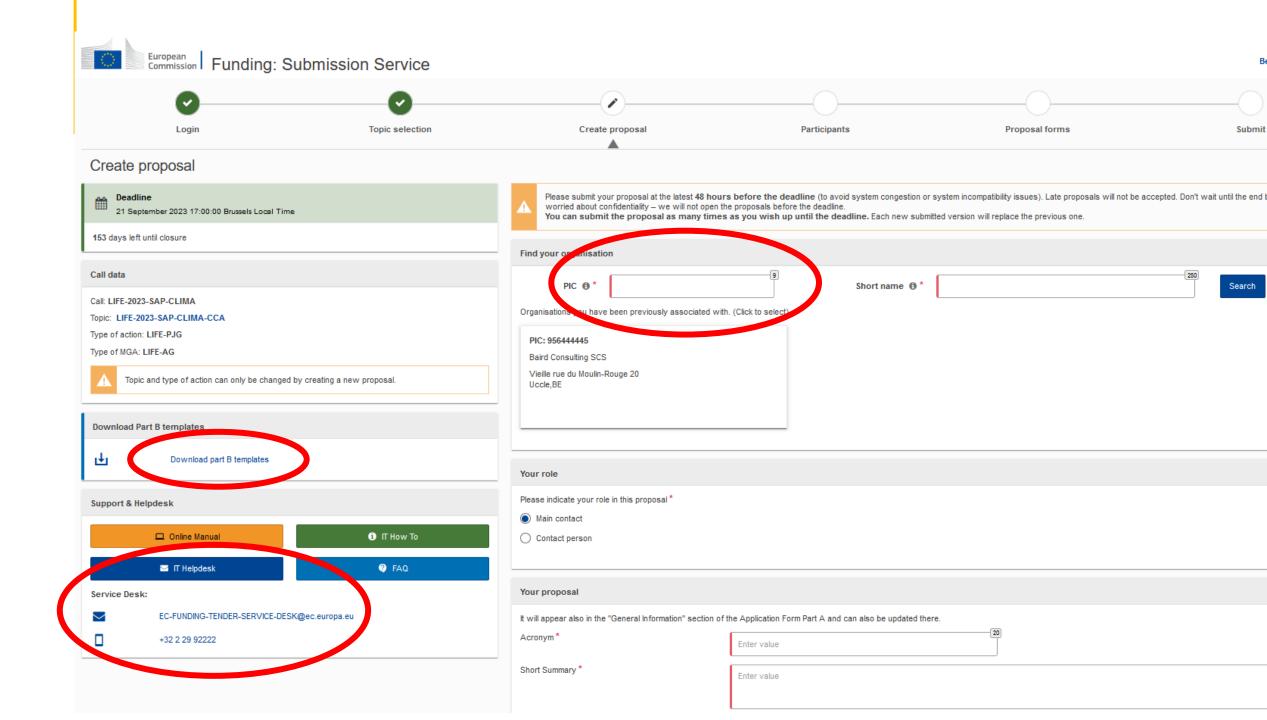






Application Forms

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency



Structure of the proposal

Structure

- Part A: Administrative Forms > generated from your information in the Portal Submission System
- Part B: Technical Description > uploaded as pdf (+annexes) in Submission System
- Part C: Key Performance Indicators





Application form - Part A

Part A: Administrative Forms > generated from your information in the Portal Submission System

- General information
 - Acronym, title, keywords, priority
 - Abstract (project summary)
- 2. Participants
 - List of participants, organisation data,
 - Staff effort
 - List of critical risks
- 3. Budget





Application form - Part B

Structure of Part B (*.docx)

Cover page

Table of contents

Project Summary (from Part A)

Watch out:

- character and page limits!
- DO NOT REMOVE INSTRUCTIONS!





Proposal Part B (2)

1. Relevance

- Background and general objectives
- Specific objectives
- Compliance LIFE and call topic
- Concept and methodology
- Upscaling of other EU projects
- Complementarity with other actions
- Synergies and co-benefits with other LIFE; and other policies

Award criterion 1: Relevance (0-20)

- 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.





Proposal Part B (3)

2. Impact

- Ambition of the impacts
- Credibility of the impacts
- Sustainability of results
- Exploitation of results
- Catalytic potential replication and upscaling

Award criterion 2: Impact (0-20, weighting factor 1.5)

- 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.





Proposal Part B (4)

3. Implementation

- Workplan
- Work packages and activities
 - Objectives and results
 - Activities and tasks
 - Milestones and deliverables
- Stakeholder engagement
- Impact monitoring and reporting
- Communication, dissemination and visibility

Award criterion 3: Quality (0-20)

- 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.





Proposal Part B (5)

4. Resources

- Consortium set-up
- Project management
- Green management
- Budget
- Risk management

Award criterion 4: Resources (0-20)

- 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:

European

Value-for-money of the proposed project.



Proposal Part B (6)

5. Other

- Ethics
- Security
- **6. Declarations** (funding rate, double funding, third parties)

Annexes

- Detailed budget table
- Annual activity reports (optional for some calls)
- List of previous projects
- other

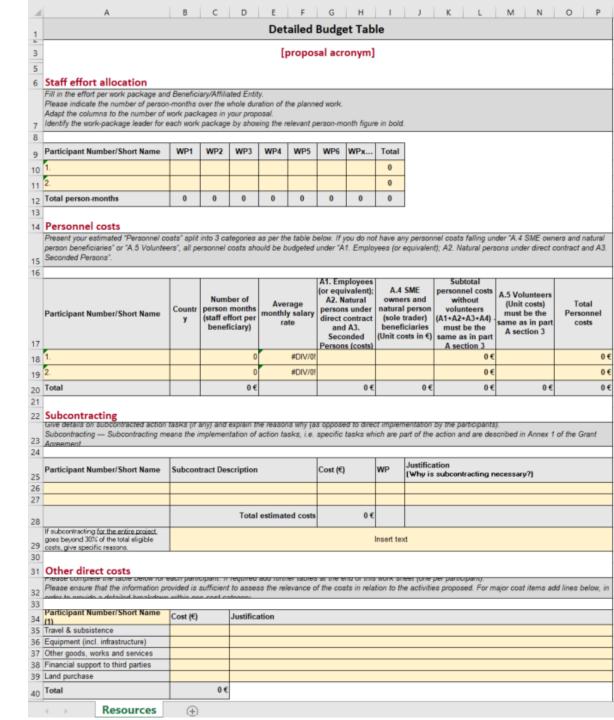




Annex: Detailed budget table

- 1. Staff costs
- 2. Subcontracting
- 3. Other direct costs
 - Travel & subsistence
 - Equipment (incl. infrastructure)
 - Other goods, works and services
 - Support to third parties
 - Land purchase







Evaluation process

European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

Selection of LIFE SAP projects

Per year 470-580 proposals:

NAT: ~ 120-150

CEQL: ~ 150-250

CLIMA: ~150-180



Best use

of

bud-

Indicative budget 2023

NAT: 148 Mio

CEQL: 81 Mio

CLIMA: 66 Mio

Selected:

~ 85-105 projects;

NAT: ~ 20-30

CEQL: ~ 35-40

CLIMA: ~ 30-35

EU Co-funding: 60%-75%





Passing admissibility and eligibility checks

Admissibility

- ☐Submitted before deadline & electronically
- ☐ Complete & using the forms/templates provided
- □ Readable (no smaller than Arial 10) printable (A4)
- ■Max 120 pages (including the instructions)



Eligibility

- □Eligible participants
- □Consortium composition
- □ Eligible activities
- ☐ Geographic location





Award criteria SAP

1. Relevance =

Policy+Project macro approach

2. Impact =

Impact+Sustainability, Exploitation & Replication

3. Quality =

Clarity+Feasibility+Appropriateness fe specific aspects

4. Resources =

Project team+Budget+Project env. foctorint

Award criteria	Minimum pass score	Maximum score	Weighting
Relevance	10	20	1
Impact	10	20	1.5
Quality	10	20	1
Resources	10	20	1
Overall weighted (pass) score (without bonus)	55	90	N/A
Bonus 1	N/A	2	1
Bonus 2	N/A	2	1
Bonus 3	N/A	2	1
Bonus 4	N/A	2	1
Bonus 5	N/A	2	1
Overall weighted (pass) scores (with bonus)	55	90 to 100	N/A



LIFE SAP Call 2023: tentative evaluation phase

Proposal Submission





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6 /21 Sep 2023

Dec 23 – Jan 24

Mar 24

Jun 24

Jul 24





Recommendations

- Start early ... start now!
- Read the relevant information and consult your National Contact Point
- Focus your objectives and build a credible intervention logic
- Build a relevant consortium
- Link the budget to activities check value for money
- Follow the template and instructions when writing proposal
- Final polish and submit multiple times







Applying successfully for LIFE: how does it work?



LIFE Info Day 2023

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 (<u>Funding & tender opportunities portal</u>)
- LIFE Regulation and Multi-annual work-programme
- As relevant, 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
 - Buffer to allow for unexpected events
- Make sure you meet the communication requirements
 - Think about platform meetings and networking events





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





Keep in touch with us



30 years of bringing green ideas to LIFE



https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en













