

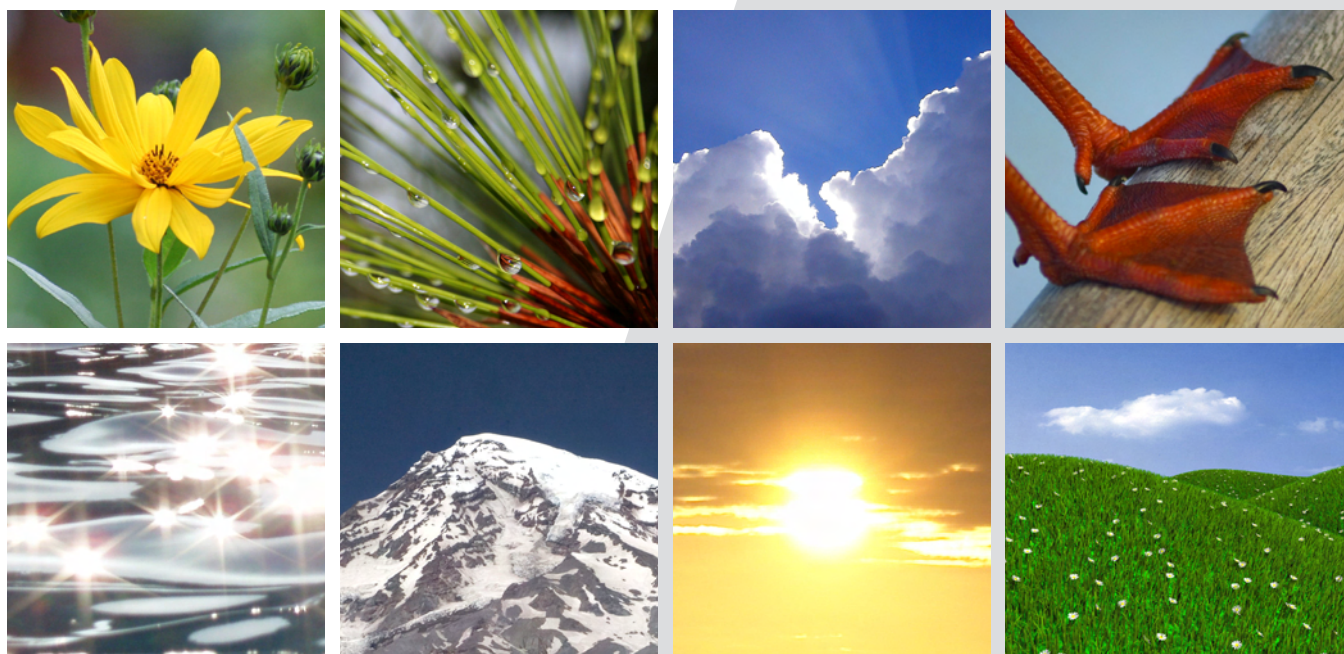
Directorate General Environment, Unit E.4. LIFE

Ex-Post Evaluation of Projects and Activities Financed under the LIFE Programme

Country-by-country analysis

Belgium

July 2009



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The views expressed are those of the Consultant and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Commission.

Table of Contents

1	Executive summary	2
2	Introduction	2
3	Environmental policy overview	2
4	Overview of LIFE projects in Belgium	3
5	Effects of projects implemented	4
5.1	Results and impacts for Nature projects	4
5.2	Results and impacts for Environment projects	5
6	The effectiveness of projects	5
7	The sustainability of projects	6
8	The utility of projects	6

Table of Appendices

Appendix 1	Comprehensive overview of LIFE Projects in Belgium
Appendix 2	Summary tables on LIFE Environment projects in Belgium
Appendix 3	Summary tables on LIFE Nature projects in Belgium

1 Executive summary

In Belgium, environment is a regional responsibility and there is little federal intervention.¹ All three regions (Brussels capital, Flanders, and Wallonia) have developed their respective environmental regulations and strategies, all of which are in line with the 6th EAP. The LIFE programme in Belgium has funded 45 Environment projects and 39 Nature projects during the period 1996-2006. The 45 LIFE Environment projects were mainly related to natural resources and waste, water, urban environment and strategic approaches. The 39 LIFE Nature projects were mostly habitat projects (33), Birds (5) and biodiversity (1).

Effectiveness in Belgium was high for LIFE Nature projects, with all but a few of the projects achieving their stated objectives and results, and sometimes even achieving more. Looking at LIFE Environment projects, effectiveness is rated as medium, with the majority of projects achieving their expected results. LIFE Nature projects are considered highly sustainable due to the type of beneficiary (either long-established NGOs and/or dedicated public authorities). Sustainability of LIFE Environment projects is high with activities of most projects still continuing or having been scaled up after their implementation. All stakeholders agreed on the uniqueness of the LIFE programme and its ability to promote nature protection, innovation and demonstration, although the projects' preparation requirements are seen as cumbersome given the available funding.

2 Introduction

This country report on the implementation of the LIFE Programme in Belgium is part of the overall ex-post evaluation of the LIFE Programme. The evaluation was commissioned in July 2008 and covers all LIFE projects initiated during the period 1996-2006. The overall objective of the evaluation is to assess the relevance and impact of the activities and projects financed under the LIFE Programme. The evaluation comprises country studies in all Member States, with the exception of Bulgaria which has never had any LIFE projects. This report documents the analysis carried out concerning the implementation of the LIFE Programme in Belgium. The ex-post evaluation focuses on assessing the effect of the LIFE Programme on Europe's nature and environment by looking at results and impact of LIFE projects implemented under the Nature (NAT) and Environment (ENV) components. The results and impacts have further been assessed according to three main evaluation criteria:

- Effectiveness, i.e. the extent to which planned objectives have been reached;
- Sustainability, i.e. the extent to which positive impacts have continued or are likely to continue;
- Utility, i.e. the extent to which impacts address key environmental needs and priorities in the EU and for the stakeholders concerned.

3 Environmental policy overview

In Belgium, because of the complex political and administrative organisation of the country, environmental policy is not only a responsibility of the federal administration but has also been decentralised to the regions (Brussels, Flanders and Wallonia) and even to a certain extent to the communes. However, most responsibility lies at the regional level. The Flemish region has developed

¹ Federal government remains competent in the following fields: products standards; protection from ionising radiations including radioactive wastes; wastes transit; legal actions (adapted from Etat de l'Environnement Wallon –EEW, available at <http://environnement.wallonie.be/eew/>)

an Environmental Policy Plan (2003 – 2007) which states that “*The Flemish Environmental Policy bases its priorities on the European Action Plan, 6th EAP*”.² Similarly, the Walloon region has an “Environmental planning process” and publishes a state of the environment score card (*Tableau de Bord de l’Environnement*, latest version 2008³) and an analytical report of the state of the environment (2006-2007). Both regions also carry out a follow up on the extent to which European Legislation has been transposed into their respective legislation. Overall, regional environment policies are well in line with the 6th EAP.

Overall, Belgium is not a front runner in terms of environmental performance in the EU. While waste management shows excellent results, the country still faces difficulties in biodiversity (fragmentation), water quality, energy, air pollution and climate change.⁴ Decoupling economic growth from environmental pressure also remains an area of concern for the country.

In Belgium the 234 Special Protection Areas (SPAs) concern 187 bird species and sub-species listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive as well as migratory birds and the 278 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) concern 253 habitat types, 200 animal and 434 plant species listed under the Habitats Directive.⁵ Natura 2000 networks are managed at regional level (Flanders and Wallonia) and both have developed advanced information systems, although they are not integrated to cover the entire country.

4 Overview of LIFE projects in Belgium

During the period 1996 to 2006, the LIFE Programme co-financed 84 projects in Belgium including 39 **Nature** projects and 45 Environment projects. Table 4.1 provides a summary of the projects implemented in Belgium. A full overview table of the projects is provided as Appendix 1. This is supplemented by detailed tables in Appendix 2 and Appendix 3.

Table 4.1 Overview of LIFE projects 1996-2006 in Belgium

	Number of projects	Total LIFE contribution (million EUR)	Main themes covered ⁶	Average LIFE contribution per project (million EUR)	Average project duration (years)
Environment	45 ⁷	24.3	Natural resources and waste, Water (each 29%)	0.5	3.4
Nature	39	46.7	Habitats (85%)	1.2	4.8

Source: BUTLER

² Environmental Policy Plan, 2003-2007, Flemish Government, September 19, 2003; p: 13.

³ Available in French at <http://environnement.wallonie.be/eew/tablematiere.aspx>

⁴ European Commission, “Gathering Information on new environment policies, 2007” – DG Environment.

⁵ Natura 2000 barometer, Dec 2008 and http://www.biodiv.be/implementation/protected_areas/natura-2000-belgium/

⁶ For the purpose of this evaluation, the LIFE projects were categorised according to the thematic structure of the LIFE+ Programme (ref. Regulation EC No. 614/2007, Annex II). The themes included for LIFE Nature: Habitat Directive, Birds Directive and Biodiversity. For LIFE Environment: Climate change, air, water, soil, forests, natural resources and waste, chemicals, urban environment, strategic approaches.

⁷ This includes three projects (LIFE02 ENV/B/000 338, LIFE04 ENV/BE/000 015, LIFE98 ENV/B/000 271) which were never actually started/implemented according to interview data.

The **LIFE Environment** projects co-financed by the LIFE Programme are mainly related to natural resources and waste, water, urban environment and strategic approaches.

The majority of the **LIFE Nature** projects co-financed by the LIFE Programme during 1996-2006 focused on implementation of the Habitat Directive. Typical project beneficiaries in Belgium are NGOs or foundations (25 projects), and regional authorities (9 projects).

5 Effects of projects implemented

5.1 Results and impacts for Nature projects

While information on the surface area or number of Natura 2000 sites affected by LIFE Nature funding in Belgium is unavailable (projects summaries are unclear on the exact area affected, and most of these summaries lack information altogether), all stakeholders interviewed agree that the area and numbers of Natura 2000 sites would be significantly lower without the contribution of LIFE Nature funding. Taken collectively, the official data⁸ on partners to LIFE Nature projects established outside Belgium, interviews with stakeholders and project summaries all indicate that the majority of projects is regionally or locally based. At national level, there is clear division between the two main regions, Flanders and Wallonia, and impacts of the projects are, for the most part, local.

Over the period in question, the quality, size and management of LIFE Nature projects have significantly improved, mainly given the beneficiaries' capacity to realistically estimate the time and resources required to negotiate land purchases with owners and to obtain specific nature protection status from authorities (e.g. *Réserve Domaniale*, etc.).⁹ LIFE Nature projects in Belgium are not innovative as such, but they are based on well known methodologies and best practices. For instance, experience from a LIFE Nature project which aimed at protecting habitats in military area in Flanders (9 400 ha), was later used to develop a similar project in Wallonia (400 ha).¹⁰ Communication throughout the "nature community" is well established, but despite recent initiatives (including nature information sessions at national level) cross regional information between Flanders and Wallonia remains limited.¹¹ From interviews with stakeholders, it appears that the capacity gained through experience of LIFE Nature funding has had a wide positive impact on general management of Natura 2000 areas, and other protected areas. It is worth noting that stakeholders¹² agree that the cumulative impacts of nature projects have allowed the densification of protected areas network. This is particularly evident in the Ardennes plateau where connectivity was enhanced, not only between the major plateaus', but also among the different Nature ecosystems forming these plateaus – e.g. valleys, bogs, etc.

⁸ Review of project summaries available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

⁹ All interviewed stakeholders agreed on this. One interviewee also mentioned that quality of both proposals and project implementation and management went from good at the beginning of the period to excellent towards the end

¹⁰ Projects LIFE03 NAT/B/000024 and LIFE05 NAT/B/000088

¹¹ Derived from face to face interviews with NFP, Monitors and LIFE Unit DO's.

¹² LIFE Unit Desk Officer and Monitors

5.2 Results and impacts for Environment projects

LIFE Environment projects in Belgium are, on the whole, successful and usually reach their objectives within the time and budget set.¹³ Main LIFE Environment themes over the evaluation period are water (13 projects), waste and natural resources (13 projects), strategic approaches (5 projects) and urban environment (5 projects).

There is also evidence that certain projects have had significant impact on the environment, at least at local level. For instance, on waste recycling, several projects have contributed to collection and recycling processes, and also to reducing the use of natural resources (mainly oil derivatives).¹⁴ The TOPPS project (LIFE05 ENV/B/000510), which is closing in early 2009, developed guidelines to prevent pollution from point sources in the agriculture sector. With partners covering most of the EU, the project has developed guidelines, in 15 languages, which tackle the handling of crop protection products on farms, seen from a local perspective. It has set up nine demonstration farms and trained over 4,500 farmers and agricultural advisers.

From interviews with stakeholders, it appears that projects run by private enterprises are usually technically viable, and that the main factor determining a potentially more widespread impact is the commercial or economical viability of the products or processes. In some instances, commercial viability was not reached during the project period.¹⁵ In these cases, there is no up to date information (ex-post) to confirm or repudiate the impact of projects after the project funding period. International cooperation has had a positive effect on LIFE **Environment** projects in Belgium, especially in relation to the Strategic Approach theme. This is confirmed by both LIFE **Environment** detailed projects studies for Belgium and interviews with stakeholders. Whilst projects were considered to be innovative by interviewed stakeholders, comparison at EU level remains difficult due to lack of information on projects at EU level (or worldwide).¹⁶

6 The effectiveness of projects

Effectiveness can be assessed at two levels: the project level, which compares achievements with project objectives, and at programme level, which compares achievements with LIFE Programme objectives.¹⁷

For **LIFE Nature** projects effectiveness is considered to be high by those stakeholders interviewed, with only a few projects not meeting their set objectives. This is explained by the good management and scientific competence of beneficiaries, and a sound knowledge of the conditions on ground level.¹⁸ The quality of both proposals and activities has also increased over the evaluation period according to most stakeholders interviewed. Furthermore, the general consensus is that LIFE Nature has been the major contributor towards the implementation of the Habitats and Birds directives, and that the extent of

¹³ According to interviews with monitors and LIFE unit desk officers. National Focal points do not hold information on projects implementation and results

¹⁴ LIFE03 ENV/B/000019, LIFE97 ENV/B/000413 and LIFE96 ENV/B/000477

¹⁵ E.g. LIFE 0303 ENV/B/000 021- Green chemistry developing an integrated and durable approach aiming at replacing heavy metal stabilizers for PVC with non toxic compounds.

¹⁶ During all interviews it became clear that none of the stakeholders had a sufficient and wide enough overview to assess the level of innovation of projects at EU level.

¹⁷ Specific objective for: LIFE Nature: to contribute to the implementation of Council Directive 79/409/EEC (Birds Directive) and Council Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive); LIFE Environment: to contribute to the development of innovative and integrated techniques and methods and to the further development of Community environmental policy.

¹⁸ Interviews with LIFE Desk Officers, Monitoring team, and National Focal Points.

nature restoration and protection would be much lower had the LIFE programme not existed. More than a mere catalyst to the implementation process, the LIFE Nature funding is recognised as having helped start and develop nature protection initiatives in all three regions of Belgium i.e. Brussels capital, Flanders, and Wallonia.

Looking at **LIFE Environment** projects, their level of effectiveness is considered to be medium with a majority of projects meeting their targets. Stakeholders agreed that because they are more heterogeneous in nature, synergies between LIFE Environment projects in Belgium were nonexistent. Projects were innovative (and all interviewed stakeholders outlined that this was actually a requirement in the selection phase). However, none of the interviewees felt sufficiently informed to comment on the level of innovation of projects at an EU Level. Most LIFE Environment projects were limited to Belgium, and evidence of results having been disseminated outside the country are seldom found.¹⁹

7 The sustainability of projects

LIFE Nature projects' sustainability in Belgium is high, and most projects, with a few exceptions, are likely to sustain their positive effects. All interviewed stakeholders stressed the importance of legal classification of land as incentive/motivation for sustainability. Once legally classified for nature protection and/or restoration, beneficiaries are entitled to apply for subsidies for continued management of the protected areas. In addition, most beneficiaries were active in the field of nature protection/restoration prior to LIFE funding, and continue after the close of the project. This ensures that the LIFE funding and project results were framed in the on-going activities of the beneficiary, thus ensuring follow-up and, in some instances, up-scaling after cessation of LIFE funding.²⁰

LIFE Environment projects' sustainability is considered to be high, with the majority of projects classified as sustainable. With few exceptions, activities/technologies developed are still in place or have been used for further development.²¹ Economic and commercial viability of demonstrated activities are key to the sustainability of projects.²² For instance, the SMASH project (LIFE00 ENV/B/000285) tested and developed guidelines on integrated sustainability approach for large events with international partners (Austria, Germany and Italy). These guidelines have been used as basis for the development of regulation of large events' organisation in Brussels-capital region, and similar regulation is being developed in the Flemish region.

8 The utility of projects

All sources of information consulted highlight the contribution of both LIFE Nature and LIFE Environment to the thematic strategies of the 6th EAP.

Most of the **LIFE Environment** projects contribute to the rational use of natural resources, sound waste management, water and wastewater treatment, or to air quality and urban environment. Only climate change, (which is a focus of the 6th EAP) is poorly represented in the LIFE Environment portfolio of

¹⁹ Project fact sheets review available at : <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

²⁰ This is confirmed by e-survey results where all but one respondent declared "*The area is managed and remains in restored condition*". In addition, 3 respondents out of 12 added that "*the managed/restored area has been increased due to full-scale implementation, other similar projects or other*".

²¹ Project fact sheets review available at : <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>

²² Derived from interviews with stakeholders and project summaries.

projects in Belgium.²³ For instance, no energy (and renewable energies) related projects took place in Belgium. For **LIFE Nature** projects, all projects contribute to the biodiversity priority of the 6th EAP, mainly through nature restoration and habitat protection. The projects proposed for LIFE funding are generally in line with the environmental priorities of the regions.²⁴

The National Focal Points act as an informative and support unit to proposal submissions. They do not influence the projects in their objectives. In that sense, the LIFE Programme is not used strategically in Belgium, but is fully implemented as a bottom-up programme, leaving freedom to the proponents in the projects topics. All stakeholders agree on the uniqueness of the programme as there is no other programme available which would fund similar actions. It is recognised as being the only programme prepared to fund risky projects (innovation and demonstration both involve the possibility of failure). It is also the main funding available for nature protection and restoration. However, there is general agreement that project preparation is too cumbersome in light of the level of funding available, especially when compared to other EU funding. In addition, it is felt that some potentially interesting projects are not proposed because of the tedious proposal preparation process.

²³ It must be noted that some Air and Natural resources and Wastes projects are related to GHG emissions reduction in the industrial sector.

²⁴ From interviews with National Focal Points.

Appendix 1 Comprehensive overview of LIFE Projects in Belgium

In connection with the ex-post evaluation, data was extracted from the BUTLER database of the LIFE Unit. Table 1 and Table 2 below provide an overview of the information available on each project as well as the LIFE+ theme attached by the evaluation team to the project. The budget figures for LIFE co-financing do not necessarily correspond to the actual payments made.

Table 2 Overview of LIFE Environment Projects in Belgium

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing budget (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	LIFE+ theme
LIFE96 ENV/B/000470	On-site Remediation of Polluted Manufactured Gas Plant Sites by Three Innovative Technologies	LIFE II	1996	1997	2000	428,688	196,692	Research institutions	No	Soil
LIFE96 ENV/B/000472	Waste reduction in industrial processes by use of floating mixer based on resonance principle	LIFE II	1996	1996	2000	2,249,350	616,988	SME	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE96 ENV/B/000477	Recycling Aluminium	LIFE II	1996	1996	1999	8,942,553	443,317	International enterprise	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE96 ENV/B/000484	Recovery of wolfram (W) out of the waste gas of a W-CVD processing tool by means of a dry plasma scrubber	LIFE II	1996	1997	1999	1,027,745	174,465	International enterprise	No	Air
LIFE97 ENV/B/000398	Transformation of iron waste from the zinc industry (goethite) into a secondary construction material (Graveliet) by a low cost and low energy consuming process.	LIFE II	1997	1997	2000	1,408,388	414,344	International enterprise	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE97 ENV/B/000401	The assessment of mulch sheets versus other techniques to inhibit competitive vegetation in tree plantations carried out in urban and natural environment.	LIFE II	1997	1997	2003	825,910	410,726	Regional authority	No	Forests

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing budget (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	LIFE+ theme
LIFE97 ENV/B/000403	New low-cost procedure for sanitary landfill leachates treatment.	LIFE II	1997	1997	2001	1,373,030	482,918	International enterprise	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE97 ENV/B/000404	Development of a β Absorption equipment for filters to measure the Suspended Particulate Matter along with heavy metals (BASPM).	LIFE II	1997	1997	2000	826,533	403,361	Research institutions	No	Air
LIFE97 ENV/B/000410	AQUAPOL - Real time measure and management of the effect of pollution on water quality.	LIFE II	1997	1997	2000	585,396	225,405	Regional authority	No	Water
LIFE97 ENV/B/000411	Fluoride Recuperation Unit	LIFE II	1997	1997	1999	9,033,173	686,858	International enterprise	No	Air
LIFE97 ENV/B/000413	SELECTIVE - New methods of selective collection and transport of solid waste, supported by advanced modelling for comparative evaluation of system cost-effectiveness.	LIFE II	1997	1997	2000	3,183,682	852,075	Local authority	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE97 ENV/B/000419	A Biotic Index of Fish Integrity (IBIP) to evaluate the ecological quality of lotic ecosystems - application to the Meuse River basin.	LIFE II	1997	1997	2001	857,180	426,956	University	No	Water
LIFE98 ENV/B/000248	Tool box for the integrated planning and management of road traffic noise to the use of urban local authorities	LIFE II	1998	1998	2003	931,816	458,061	Local authority	Yes	Urban environment
LIFE98 ENV/B/000252	Best Available Techniques in Textiles (BATINT)	LIFE II	1998	1998	2002	691,100	331,671	Research institutions	Yes	Water

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing budget (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	LIFE+ theme
LIFE98 ENV/B/000253	City of Hasselt. Mobile Together Differently. Sustainable change immobility behaviour thanks to incentive actions organised by the population, trade and industry and the city council.	LIFE II	1998	1999	2001	579,721	174,896	Local authority	No	Urban environment
LIFE98 ENV/B/000254	Ecology Cluster for Overall Waste Re-engineering	LIFE II	1998	1998	2000	1,336,420	646,079	SME	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE98 ENV/B/000255	Optimal and autonomous control of waste water treatment plants with structural and intelligent communication with the production	LIFE II	1998	1998	2000	739,423	221,809	SME	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE98 ENV/B/000260	Detection and elimination of human exposure to environmental hormone disrupting substances.	LIFE II	1998	1998	2002	1,495,809	652,369	Research institutions	No	Chemicals
LIFE98 ENV/B/000262	Demonstration project EMAS : promotion of EMAS as an integral part of total quality management	LIFE II	1998	1998	2002	449,650	223,256	Regional authority	No	Strategic Approaches
LIFE98 ENV/B/000269	Make Brussels bicycle friendly	LIFE II	1998	1998	2001	589,251	237,105	NGO-Foundation	No	Urban environment
LIFE98 ENV/B/000271	On site joinery wood waste valorisation for combined heat and power production by gasification	LIFE II	1998	1998	2002	1,349,073	303,839		No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE99 ENV/B/000637	Demonstration project for the formulation and implementation of an integrated action programme for the prevention of soil erosion and flooding in Loam Regions.	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	1,654,417	487,966	Local authority	No	Water

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing budget (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	LIFE+ theme
LIFE99 ENV/B/000638	Assessment of the long term behaviour of the fine residues of municipal waste incineration processes treated with hydraulic binders.	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	674,422	333,492	Research institutions	Yes	Natural resources and waste
LIFE99 ENV/B/000639	Demonstration and dissemination of ecodesign in industry as support for a sustainable growth.	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	738,475	311,396	Development agency	No	Strategic Approaches
LIFE99 ENV/B/000640	Rcycl	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	1,611,333	737,084	Local authority	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE99 ENV/B/000641	An integrated strategy to prevent water shortage and flooding through stimulating infiltration and local storage of rainwater, and through reduction of runoff.	LIFE II	1999	2000	2003	1,907,927	564,250	NGO-Foundation	No	Water
LIFE99 ENV/B/000643	Validation by means of demonstration actions of an integrated strategy to systematise the recycling in the roadway construction and repairing operations managed by communal, provincial and local authorities.	LIFE II	1999	1999	2002	447,225	222,869	Local authority	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE99 ENV/B/000649	The removal of photo resist from silicon wafers using a boundary layer controlled ozone/DI-water process	LIFE II	1999	1999	2001	1,571,753	675,509	Research institutions	No	Air

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing budget (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	LIFE+ theme
LIFE99 ENV/B/000650	Development of a model for local authorities to implement a policy concerning sustainable environmental planning in urbanised areas, based on a case study: an urban forest for Gent	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	904,440	442,897	Regional authority	No	Urban environment
LIFE00 ENV/B/000285	Sustainable mobility as part of an integrated sustainability approach for large events	LIFE II	2000	2001	2004	1,071,896	535,449	SME	Yes	Strategic Approaches
LIFE02 ENV/B/000333	Implementation of "Vacuum Evaporation" to obtain "Zero Waste Discharge" and "Energy Recovery"	LIFE III	2002	2002	2004	1,983,627	482,775	SME	No	Water
LIFE02 ENV/B/000338	Development of procedures and guides to support the work and data collection of re-use centres	LIFE III	2002	2002	2005	798,474	365,513		No	Urban environment
LIFE02 ENV/B/000341	Development of an integrated approach for the removal of tributyltin (TBT) from waterways and harbours: prevention, treatment and reuse of TBT contaminated sediments	LIFE III	2002	2002	2005	3,222,366	1,335,495	Local authority	No	Strategic Approaches
LIFE03 ENV/B/000017	Electro-destruction of toxic nitrate and ammonia ions. Demonstration of a sustainable wastewater treatment technology in power plants that removes nitrates up to zero percent and prevents sewage sludge generation.	LIFE III	2003	2003	2006	777,891	226,674	Mixt enterprise	No	Water

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing budget (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	LIFE+ theme
LIFE03 ENV/B/000018	Rehabilitation of a combined hexavalent chromium and VOC groundwater contamination : pilot tests with injection of molasses on large scale.	LIFE III	2003	2003	2007	1,715,174	390,082	International enterprise	No	Water
LIFE03 ENV/B/000019	Assessing the Potential of Plastic Recycling in the Construction and Demolition Activities.	LIFE III	2003	2003	2006	831,244	415,622	Regional authority	No	Natural resources and waste
LIFE03 ENV/B/000021	Green chemistry developing an integrated and durable approach aiming at replacing heavy metal stabilizers for PVC with non toxic compounds.	LIFE III	2003	2003	2006	4,200,358	1,198,135	International enterprise	No	Chemicals
LIFE04 ENV/BE/000017	Organic material and etch residue removal using supercritical CO2 in back-end of line applications	LIFE III	2004	2004	2007	2,021,180	594,884	Research institutions	No	Water
LIFE05 ENV/B/000510	Train the operators to prevent pollution from point sources	LIFE III Extension	2005	2005	2009	2,603,332	1,259,105	Development agency	No	Water
LIFE05 ENV/B/000517	In Situ Metal Precipitation for remediation of groundwater contaminated with non ferrous metals	LIFE III Extension	2005	2005	2009	2,764,542	758,236	International enterprise	No	Water
LIFE06 ENV/B/000356	Demonstrate and implement a self-supportive selective collection system for plastic packaging waste in the construction sector involving all stakeholders along the value chain and to show sustainability of the concept	LIFE III Extension	2006	2005	2009	1,747,495	1,136,247	NGO-Foundation	No	Natural resources and waste

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing budget (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	LIFE+ theme
LIFE06 ENV/B/000359	Demonstration of a MULTIBARRIER as a sustainable approach for the prevention of groundwater contamination by leaking landfills and multipollutant contaminated sites : a cheap alternative to landfill reinstallation and/or leachate treatment	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2010	1,506,670	452,001	Research institutions	No	Water
LIFE06 ENV/B/000362	Demonstration of a 100% non-toxic hull protection and anti-fouling system contribution to zero emissions to the aquatic environment and saving 3-8 % heavy fuels	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2010	5,200,611	1,525,413	SME	No	Water
LIFE06 ENV/B/000365	Sustainable Management by Interactive Governance and Industrial Networking	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2010	2,011,006	1,002,878	Development agency	No	Strategic Approaches

Table 3 Overview of LIFE Nature Projects in Belgium

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	Directive (Birds, Habitats) or biodiversity
LIFE96 NAT/B/003032	Integral Coastal Conservation Initiative	LIFE II	1996	1997	2002	2,551,854	1,137,106	Regional authority	No	Biodiversity
LIFE96 NAT/B/003034	Action plan for heaths, mat-grasslands and associated habitats in Belgium	LIFE II	1996	1996	1999	821,792	410,896	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE96 NAT/B/003035	Rehabilitation and development of nature in the 'Grensmaas' area	LIFE II	1996	1997	2000	860,563	258,169	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE97 NAT/B/004206	Protection of the habitats of a number of priority species of wet grasslands in Belgium	LIFE II	1997	1997	2002	1,445,107	722,553	NGO-Foundation	No	Birds
LIFE97 NAT/B/004208	Initiative to ecologically rehabilitate the Pond Complex Central-Limburg (Vijvercomplex Midden-Limburg), a key central area in a regional network of pond and marsh biotopes	LIFE II	1997	1999	2003	1,992,850	677,569	NGO-Foundation	No	Birds
LIFE98 NAT/B/005167	Habitat improvement in the SAC of the Brussels-Capital Region	LIFE II	1998	1998	2003	700,986	280,394	Local authority	No	Habitats
LIFE98 NAT/B/005168	Actions for oligo-mesotrophic Aquatic Habitats in de Kempen	LIFE II	1998	1998	2003	897,678	448,839	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE98 NAT/B/005171	Dijlevallei	LIFE II	1998	1998	2004	1,902,465	760,986	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	Directive (Birds, Habitats) or biodiversity
LIFE98 NAT/B/005172	Preservation, Protection and Restoration of the Kranepoel and Surroundings (Aalter)	LIFE II	1998	1998	2003	675,226	337,613	Local authority	No	Habitats
LIFE99 NAT/B/006285	Restoration of wetlands in Belgian Lorraine	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	828,158	372,671	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE99 NAT/B/006295	Salt meadows in the Flemish polders	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	1,490,584	670,763	NGO-Foundation	No	Birds
LIFE99 NAT/B/006296	Cross-border recovery and conservation of wet ecosystems	LIFE II	1999	1999	2004	3,972,383	993,096	NGO-Foundation	Yes	Habitats
LIFE99 NAT/B/006298	Intermediate Atlantic heathlands in the Flanders	LIFE II	1999	1999	2003	1,438,006	719,003	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE00 NAT/B/007148	Actions for Birds of Reedbeds in Bassin de la Haine	LIFE II	2000	2001	2005	1,740,715	870,358	NGO-Foundation	No	Birds
LIFE00 NAT/B/007156	Action Plan for conservation and restoration of three woods in the Flemish Ardennes	LIFE II	2000	2001	2007	2,837,738	1,126,582	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE00 NAT/B/007168	Restoring and Managing Calcareous Habitat types in the region of Lesse and Lomme	LIFE II	2000	2001	2005	685,174	342,587	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE02 NAT/B/008590	Conservation of habitats of pearl mussels in Belgium	LIFE III	2002	2002	2007	2,322,760	1,161,380	Research institutions	No	Habitats
LIFE02 NAT/B/008591	FEYDRA: Fossil Estuary of the Yzer Dunes Restoration Action	LIFE III	2002	2002	2006	1,309,522	654,761	Regional authority	No	Habitats

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	Directive (Birds, Habitats) or biodiversity
LIFE02 NAT/B/008593	Restoration and sustainable management of upper Meuse dry Grasslands	LIFE III	2002	2002	2006	1,934,717	967,359	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE02 NAT/B/008595	Minerotrophic mires and heath ecosystems in the Zuiderkempen	LIFE III	2002	2002	2007	2,535,594	1,014,238	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE2002NAT/ST/B/000001	Conservation de la Loutre des bassins belgo-germano-luxembourgeois	LIFE III	2002	2002	2003	30,000	15,000		No	Habitats
LIFE03 NAT/B/000019	Rehabilitation of peat and wet habitats on the Saint-Hubert Plateau	LIFE III	2003	2003	2007	2,127,540	1,063,770	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE03 NAT/B/000020	Restoration and management of the lowland mire "Damvallei"	LIFE III	2003	2003	2009	2,266,900	1,133,450	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE03 NAT/B/000023	Uitkerkse Polder: a surplus value for nature and people	LIFE III	2003	2003	2009	4,205,003	1,682,001	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE03 NAT/B/000024	Integrated restoration of natural habitats on military areas in Natura 2000	LIFE III	2003	2003	2010	15,322,373	6,555,658	Regional authority	No	Habitats
LIFE04 NAT/BE/000010	Habitat restoration in Landschap De Liereman	LIFE III	2004	2004	2010	3,042,700	1,521,350	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE05 NAT/B/000085	Restoration of European otter habitats (Be & Lu)	LIFE III Extension	2005	2005	2011	3,891,664	1,945,831	Park-Reserve authority	No	Habitats
LIFE05 NAT/B/000087	Actions for the valleys and turf moors of Croix Scaille (Belgium)	LIFE III Extension	2005	2006	2010	2,116,700	1,058,350	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats

Id.	Title	LIFE generation	Funding year	Start year	End year	Total budget (EUR)	LIFE co-financing (EUR)	Beneficiary type	International partners (yes/no)	Directive (Birds, Habitats) or biodiversity
LIFE05 NAT/B/000088	Rehabilitation of habitats in military camps in Wal-lonia	LIFE III Extension	2005	2006	2011	3,447,436	1,723,718	Regional authority	No	Habitats
LIFE05 NAT/B/000089	Rehabilitation of natural habitats on the Tailles Plateau	LIFE III Extension	2005	2006	2010	3,753,300	1,876,650	Regional authority	No	Habitats
LIFE05 NAT/B/000090	Restoration of the lowland river system 'Grote Nete'	LIFE III Extension	2005	2005	2011	3,120,940	1,560,470	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE05 NAT/B/000091	Transboundary habitat restoration in the valley of the Dommel	LIFE III Extension	2005	2005	2011	5,818,650	2,676,579	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE06 NAT/B/000081	Habitat restoration in Averbode Bos en Heide	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2011	3,870,400	1,935,200	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE06 NAT/B/000082	Habitat restoration of alluvial forests and heath in the "Stroppers" area	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2010	1,881,369	940,684	Regional authority	No	Birds
LIFE06 NAT/B/000084	Large-scale Habitat Restoration in "Turnhouts Vennegebied"	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2012	4,197,525	1,679,010	NGO-Foundation	No	Habitats
LIFE06 NAT/B/000085	Cross-border restoration of heathland on continental dunes	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2011	1,896,047	948,023	Park-Reserve authority	No	Habitats
LIFE06 NAT/B/000087	Zwindunes Ecological Nature Optimisation	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2011	2,537,060	1,268,530	Regional authority	No	Habitats
LIFE06 NAT/B/000091	Rehabilitation of heaths and mires on the Hautes-Fagnes Plateau	LIFE III Extension	2006	2007	2012	4,500,300	2,250,150	Regional authority	No	Habitats
LIFE06 NAT/B/000095	Action plan for three threatened bat species in Flanders	LIFE III Extension	2006	2006	2011	1,892,271	946,136	Regional authority	No	Habitats

Appendix 2 Summary tables on LIFE Environment projects in Belgium

Table 4 Overview of LIFE ENV projects in Belgium by year, 1996-2006

Generation	Year	Number of projects	Total budget (EUR million)	Total LIFE co-financing budget (EUR million)	Average duration (years)	Average LIFE funding per project (EUR million)
LIFE II	1996	4	12.6	1.4	3.0	0.4
	1997	8	18.1	3.9	3.5	0.5
	1998	9	8.2	3.2	3.3	0.4
	1999	8	9.5	3.8	3.5	0.5
	Total	29	48.4	12.4	3.4	0.4
LIFE III	2000	1	1.1	0.5	3.0	0.5
	2002	3	6.0	2.2	2.7	0.7
	2003	4	7.5	2.2	3.3	0.6
	2004	1	2.0	0.6	3.0	0.6
	Total	9	17	6	3.0	0.6
LIFE III extension	2005	2	5.4	2.0	4.0	1.0
	2006	4	10.5	4.1	4.0	1.0
	Total	6	15.8	6.1	4.0	1.0
Grand total		44	80.9	24.0	3.4	0.5
Comparative figures for all ENV projects		1,076	1,947.7	615.9	3.3	0.6

Table 5 Overview of LIFE ENV projects in Belgium 1996-2006 by theme

LIFE+ theme	No. of projects	In % of total	Total budget (EUR million)	In % of total	LIFE contribution (EUR million)	In % of total
Climate change	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Air	4	9%	12.5	15%	1.9	8%
Water	13	30%	24.3	30%	7.7	32%
Soil	1	2%	0.4	1%	0.2	1%
Forests	1	2%	0.8	1%	0.4	2%
Natural resources and waste	13	30%	25.9	32%	6.8	28%
Chemicals	2	5%	5.7	7%	1.9	8%
Urban environment	5	11%	3.8	5%	1.7	7%
Strategic approaches	5	11%	7.5	9%	3.4	14%
Total	44	100%	80.9	100%	24.0	100%

Table 6 Belgium LIFE ENV projects 1996-2006 according to beneficiary type

Beneficiary type	No. of projects	In % of total	Total budget (EUR million)	In % of total	LIFE contribution (EUR million)	In % of total
Public entities						
National authority	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Regional authority	5	11%	3.6	4%	1.7	7%
Local authority	7	16%	11.6	14%	4.3	18%
Development agency	3	7%	5.4	7%	2.6	11%
Intergovernmental body	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Park-reserve authority	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Sub-total	15	34%	20.6	25%	8.6	36%
Public and private enterprises						
International enterprise	8	18%	30.5	38%	4.5	19%
Large enterprise	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
SME Small and medium sized enterprise	1	2%	0.8	1%	0.2	1%
Mixed enterprise	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Public enterprise	6	14%	12.6	16%	4.0	17%
Sub-total	15	34%	43.8	54%	8.8	37%
NGOs and research						
NGO-Foundation	3	7%	4.2	5%	1.9	8%
Research institutions	8	18%	9.2	11%	3.6	15%
University	1	2%	0.9	1%	0.4	2%
Training centre	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Sub-total	12	27%	14.3	18%	6.0	25%
None indicated	2	5%	2.1	3%	0.7	3%
Total	44	100%	80.9	100%	24.0	100%

Appendix 3 Summary tables on LIFE Nature projects in Belgium

Table 7 Overview of LIFE NAT projects in Belgium, 1996-2006

Generation	Year	Number of projects	Total budget (EUR million)	Total LIFE co-financing budget (EUR million)	Average duration (years)	Average LIFE funding per project (EUR million)
LIFE II	1996	3	4.2	1.8	3.7	0.6
	1997	2	3.4	1.4	4.5	0.7
	1998	4	4.2	1.8	5.3	0.5
	1999	4	7.7	2.8	4.3	0.7
	Total	13	19.6	7.8	4.5	0.6
LIFE III	2000	3	5.3	2.3	4.7	0.8
	2002	5	8.1	3.8	3.8	0.8
	2003	4	23.9	10.4	5.8	2.6
	2004	1	3.0	1.5	6.0	1.5
	Total	13	40	18	4.8	1.4
LIFE III extension	2005	6	22.1	10.8	5.2	1.8
	2006	7	20.8	10.0	5.0	1.4
	Total	13	42.9	20.8	5.1	1.6
Grand total		39	102.9	46.7	4.8	1.2
Comparative figures for all NAT projects		771	1,224.1	637.2	4.2	0.8

Table 8 Categories of LIFE NAT projects in Belgium, 1996-2006

LIFE NAT themes	No. of projects	In % of total	Total budget (EUR million)	In % of total	LIFE contribution (EUR million)	In % of total
Habitats Directive	33	85%	91.8	89%	41.7	89%
Birds Directive	5	13%	8.6	8%	3.9	8%
Biodiversity projects	1	3%	2.6	2%	1.1	2%
Total	39	100%	102.9	100%	46.7	100%

Table 9 Belgium LIFE NAT projects 1996-2006 according to beneficiary type

Beneficiary type	No. of projects	In % of total	Total budget (EUR million)	In % of total	LIFE contribution (EUR million)	In % of total
Public entities						
National authority	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Regional authority	9	23%	37.2	36%	17.4	37%
Local authority	2	5%	1.4	1%	0.6	1%
Development agency	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Intergovernmental body	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Park-reserve authority	2	5%	5.8	6%	2.9	6%
Sub-total	13	33%	44.4	43%	20.9	45%
Public and private enterprises						
International enterprise	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Large enterprise	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
SME Small and medium sized enterprise	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Mixed enterprise	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Public enterprise	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Sub-total	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
NGOs and research						
NGO-Foundation	24	62%	56.1	55%	24.7	53%
Research institutions	1	3%	2.3	2%	1.2	2%
University	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Training centre	0	0%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Sub-total	25	64%	58.5	57%	25.8	55%
None indicated	1	3%	0.0	0%	0.0	0%
Total	39	100%	102.9	100%	46.7	100%