

CLIMATE, ENVIRONMENT AND MARITIME

LIFE

(Nature and Biodiversity, Circular Economy and Quality of Life, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation)

The [Nature and Biodiversity](#) sub-programme aims at the protection and restoration of Europe's nature and halting and reversing biodiversity loss. The [Circular Economy and Quality of Life](#) sub-programme aims at 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. The [Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation](#) sub-programme will contribute to the shift towards a sustainable, energy-efficient, renewable energy-based, climate-neutral and resilient economy.

Budget (2021-2027): €4.47 billion ⁽⁸⁾

Key Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circular economy & quality of life (circular systems & business models, waste generation & management, quality of air, water & marine resources, air & noise, soil, chemical management, environmental compliance assurance) • Nature & biodiversity protection (conservation & restoration, status of species, habitats & ecosystems) • Climate change mitigation & adaptation (reduction of GHG emissions, reduction & removal of CO₂, adaptation modelling, monitoring, reporting & evaluation, clean energy transition, energy efficiency, renewable, energy, ecodesign, energy labelling, renovation wave, building & construction sector) 			
WHO can apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Member States, listed EEA countries and countries associated to the LIFE Programme or countries which are in ongoing negotiations for an association agreement and where the agreement enters into force before grant signature (please refer to the list of eligible countries provided in the LIFE specific calls) • Legal entities: Public or private bodies • International organisations 			
WHAT activities can be funded?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology deployment • Close to market projects • Training/capacity building • Incentivising behavioural change • Preparatory projects for legislative & policy priorities • Coordination & support actions • Implementation of best practice actions • Advisory services (Green Assist) 			
Range of EU Contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-financing ≤60% of total eligible costs for Strategic Nature Projects (SNAP), Strategic Integrated Projects (SIP) and Standard Action Projects • Up to ≤75% of total eligible costs for standard action under nature & biodiversity 			
Links to relevant calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LIFE Calls for Proposals • LIFE Calls for Tenders 			
Target Technology Readiness Level (TRL)	<p>From 4 (Technology validated in a lab) to 5 (Technology validated in a relevant environment - industrially relevant environment in the case of key enabling technologies). When applicable: from 4 to 9 (Actual system proven in an operational environment - competitive manufacturing in the case of key enabling technologies, or in space)*</p> <p>As detailed in the TRL scale annexed to the Work Programmes of the Horizon Europe EU funding programme.</p> <p>*Not applicable for the LIFE Nature and Biodiversity sub-programme.</p>			
Project examples LIFE featured projects	<p>LIFE UrbanStorm (September 2018 – February 2023)</p> <p>The LIFE UrbanStorm project dealt with finding solutions to floods caused by heavy rains in urban areas and identifying sustainable urban drainage solutions suitable for Estonian conditions.</p> <p>The project produced a useful guide on Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, legal recommendations and was among the finalists for Baltic Sustainability Award at the Baltic Sustainability Forum in 2021.</p>	<p>LIFE Multi Peat (October 2021 – September 2026)</p> <p>The project aims at carrying out large-scale restoration of degraded peatlands in Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, Belgium and Ireland leading to a stop of greenhouse gas emissions and re-establishing the natural function of carbon sinks.</p> <p>The project also foresees the development of effective policy tools that will bring together all the relevant information on peatland management for policy makers, climate change activists, experts and the public.</p>	<p>LIFE TECMINE (November 2017 – May 2022)</p> <p>The project focused its intervention on the environmental rehabilitation of the Fortuna de Ademuz mine in the Valencian Community in Spain.</p> <p>The project aimed to apply revegetation techniques, water management and recreation of natural reliefs with the application of the GeoFluv method to reduce erosion and the formation of fertile soil. During project implementation, the same restoration methods were replicated in 4 further sites in Spain and Sweden.</p> <p>The project won the 2023 LIFE Award in the Citizens Award category.</p>	<p>LIFE Luchs Pfälzerwald (January 2015 – September 2021)</p> <p>The project successfully re-established a lynx (<i>Lynx lynx carpathicus</i>) population in the Palatinate Forest in southwestern Germany. This was achieved through a reintroduction programme involving the release of 20 lynx. By the end of the project, at least 18 cubs were born. Migration to the Central Vosges was documented and the birth of offspring was proven in the Northern Vosges in 2021.</p> <p>This newly-established population is expected to serve as a 'stepping stone', interlinking other lynx populations.</p> <p>The project won the 2023 LIFE Award in the Nature Award category.</p>

⁽⁸⁾ For the four sub-programmes: Nature and biodiversity – Circular economy and quality of life – Climate change mitigation and adaptation – Clean energy transition.