

LIFE Programme in Romania



Facts and figures

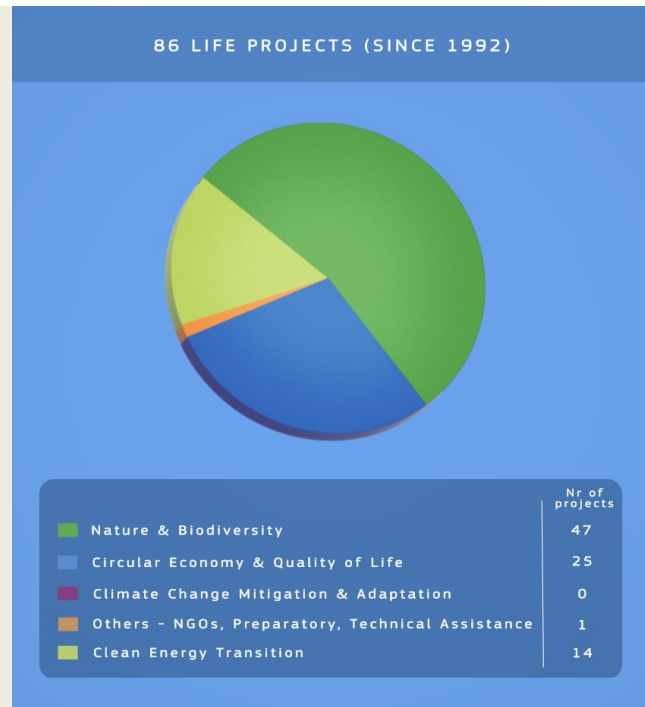
The LIFE Programme has funded 86 projects in Romania over 81 coordinating beneficiaries with total project costs of €109m, of which the EU contributed €53.5m.

The LIFE Programme is the EU's funding instrument for environment and climate action. It has been running since 1992 and has co-financed more than 5500 projects across the EU and in third countries, mobilising more over €12 billion and contributing with more than €5 billion to the protection of the environment and climate. The LIFE programme contributes fully to the objectives and targets of the European Green Deal.

The budget for the period 2021–2027 is set at €5.4 billion.

The following sub-programmes are covered (*):

- **Nature and biodiversity**
- **Circular economy and quality of life**
- **Climate change mitigation and adaptation**
- **Clean energy transition** (first call for projects in 2021) (**)



INVESTMENT IN LIFE PROJECTS IN ROMANIA (€ million)

	TOTAL INVESTMENT	EU CONTRIBUTION
ALL LIFE projects	109	53.5
Nature & Biodiversity	67	34
Circular Economy & Quality of Life	39	17
Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation	11.5	7
Others - NGOs, Preparatory, Technical Assistance	0.4	0.3
Clean Energy Transition (*)	2.4	2.2

(*) Past and closed projects are designated in this document with the new LIFE programme 2021-2027 nomenclature

(**) The new CET sub-programme comprises mostly multi-country projects and all participants are included in the figures



LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

The LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation strand will support actions which help implement the 2030 energy and climate policy framework and meet the European Union's commitments under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Projects under this strand will contribute to climate neutral and resilient economy.

Strategic Integrated Climate Projects (SIP) will implement, on a regional, multi-regional, national or transnational scale, climate strategies or action plans developed by Member States' authorities and required by specific climate or relevant energy legislation or policy of the Union. These projects will also ensure that stakeholders are involved and promote coordination with and mobilisation of at least one other Union, national or private funding source.

No projects have been co-funded in Romania under this strand so far.



LIFE Clean Energy Transition

Building on the Intelligent Energy Europe (2003-2013) and Horizon 2020 Energy Efficiency (2014-2020) programmes, the LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme continues to support the delivery of EU policies in the field of sustainable energy. In particular, it aims at facilitating the transition towards an energy-efficient, renewable energy-based, climate-neutral and -resilient economy across Europe.

The LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme supports projects in the following five areas of intervention:

- 1) Building a national, regional and local policy framework supporting the clean energy transition;
- 2) Accelerating technology roll-out, digitalisation, new services and business models and enhancement of the related professional skills on the market;
- 3) Attracting private finance for sustainable energy;
- 4) Supporting the development of local and regional investment projects;
- 5) Involving and empowering citizens in the clean energy transition.

To date, Romania coordinates one CET project. The BUS4RoBOOST project aims at rebooting the National Qualification Platform (NQP), Status Quo Analysis (SQA) and National Roadmap developed under the BUILD UP Skills Romania project (ROBUST), to ensure alignment with the EU 2030 targets. Its total budget amounts to €0.4 million, of which the EU is contributing 95%.

Romania also participates in 13 other CET projects, as follows: Ministerul Energiei in projects OdysseeMure fit-4-55 and ENSMOV Plus; Asociația Institutul Social Valea Jiului in project JUSTEM; Asociația Orase Energie In Romania in project NECPlatform; SERVELECT SRL and Universitatea Tehnica Cluj-Napoca in project EnTRAINER; Agentia Locala a Energiei Alba in project IN-PLAN; COOPERATIWADEENERGIE.RO, Municipiul Tulcea and Primaria Municipiului Bistrita in project LIFE LOOP; Societatea Romana Geoexchange and TERMOLINE SRL in project COOLING DOWN; Ispe Proiectare Si Consultanta SA in project SRI-ENACT; Asociația de Standardizare DIN Romania in project SMART SQUARE; COOPERATIWADEENERGIE.RO in project ACCE; Beia Consult International Srl and JUDETUL TIMIS in project PLENTY-LIFE; and MINISTERUL DEZVOLTARII in project CAEPBD6. This represents a total investment of €2 million, of which the EU is contributing 95%.



LIFE Nature and Biodiversity

The Nature and Biodiversity strand includes support for standard action projects for developing, applying and promoting best practice in relation to nature and biodiversity, as well as “Strategic Nature Projects” (SNAP). These new projects support the achievement of Union nature and biodiversity objectives by implementing coherent programmes of action in Member States in order to mainstream those objectives and priorities into other policies and financing instruments, including through coordinated implementation of the prioritised action frameworks adopted pursuant to Directive 92/43/EEC.

To date, the LIFE Nature and Biodiversity component has co-financed 47 projects in Romania. These represent a total investment of €67 million, of which €34 million has been contributed by the EU.

Completed LIFE Nature projects in Romania focused mainly on habitat restoration (alpine and sub-alpine forests and wetland habitats; Transylvania’s pastoral ecosystems; Semenic and Calimani-Gurghiu mountains; Iron Gates wetlands; caves; and natural forests in the Fagaras Mountains in the Southern Carpathian Mountains), but also on the conservation of certain species (large carnivores, bats, meadow viper, dolphins, pygmy cormorant, ferruginous duck, lesser spotted eagle, brown bear in the Carpathians, and wolf). Parks, national and regional authorities, and research institutions accounted for nearly 80% of the project coordinating beneficiaries. Other types included development agencies, NGOs, universities, local authorities, a national park and a training centre.

There are five ongoing projects. These focus on the conservation of habitats (Cheile Nerei – Beusnita caves, grasslands in Transylvania, creation of a wilderness reserve in the South Carpathian mountains) and species (rheophilic fish in the Gilort river system, and saproxylic beetles in the Carpathians).

Under the former Information & Communication strand, the closed EME Natura2000 project produced five ‘Biodiversity and Natura 2000 Toolkits for Key Economic Sectors’, and two manuals and several other strategic documents. These communication materials, which have proved to be particularly useful, were the result of a wide participatory process that brought the beneficiaries and stakeholders together.



Circular Economy and Quality of Life

Actions supported under the Circular economy and quality of life strand will help in reaching major EU policy objectives such as the transition to a circular economy, as well as protecting and improving the quality of the environment and life. Under this strand, Strategic Integrated Projects (SIP), will implement, on a regional, multi-regional, national or transnational scale, environmental or climate strategies or action plans developed by Member States' authorities and required by specific environmental, climate or relevant energy legislation or policy of the Union. These projects will also ensure that stakeholders are involved and promoting coordination with and mobilisation of at least one other Union, national or private funding source.

This strand [formerly LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency and Environmental Governance and Information] has co-financed 25 projects in Romania thus far, representing a total investment of €39 million, of which €17 million has been provided by the EU.

All projects under this strand are completed and covered several themes, such as: clean technologies; water management at the scale of the river basin; industrial and municipal waste management; air quality; risk assessment and pollution control; sensitive area management; construction and demolition waste; reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (carbon dioxide mitigation in algal photosynthetic systems); hazardous waste (shipment and safe treatment, hazardous waste in hospitals); recycling of industrial waste; and eco-marketing. National and local authorities were the main coordinating beneficiaries. Other types included a development agency, a public enterprise, a university (Târgu-Jiu) and research institutions.

Under the former Information & Communication strand, the closed GREEN-PRO project greatly increased the awareness of the local public toward green products. The other closed project, ECOTIC LIFE+ Caravan, was very successful and had a direct impact in raising awareness about WEEE in Romania, which has indirectly led to higher collection rates in the country. There were three main target groups – schoolchildren and teachers; households and the general public; and local authorities – all of whom were successfully reached in higher than expected numbers.

Want to know more about LIFE?

- Visit the [LIFE website](#) and [LIFE project database](#)

- Follow the LIFE programme on social media:



- Sign up to the [LIFE Programme](#) and [CINEA Clean Energy](#) Newsletters

- Contact the LIFE National Contact Point in your Member State:

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Ongoing LIFE Nature & Biodiversity projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
LIFE Preserving of the Habitat 8310 from the Site Natura 2000 Cheile Nerei – Beusnita	LIFE13 NAT/RO/001488	LIFEPH8310SN2000CNB	http://salvatipesterile.ro/	07/2014 -> 03/2023
Creation of a Wilderness Reserve in the Southern Carpathian Mountains, Romania	LIFE18 NAT/RO/001082	LIFE CARPATHIA	https://www.carpathia.org/ro/life-carpathia/	07/2019 -> 04/2024
Conservation of saproxylic beetles in the Carpathians	LIFE19 NAT/RO/000023	LIFE ROsalia	https://liferosalia.ro/	09/2020 -> 05/2025
Demonstrating cooperative approach for good management of Natura 2000 grasslands at landscape scale in Transylvania	LIFE19 NAT/RO/000602	LIFE TransilvaCooperation	https://fundatia-adept.org/projects/life-transilvacooperation/	09/2020 -> 12/2023

Ongoing Clean Energy Transition projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
BUILD Up Skills for mainstreaming long-term renovation of Romanian building stock	LIFE21-CET-BUILDSKILLS-BUS4RoBOOST/101076873	BUS4RoBOOST	N/A	11/2022 -> 04/2024
Odyssee-MURE – Monitoring the Energy Efficiency Pillar for Climate Neutrality	LIFE21-CET-POLICY-OdysseeMure fit-4-55/101075902	OdysseeMure fit-4-55	N/A	10/2022 -> 03/2025
6th Concerted Action supporting Member States and participating countries in implementing the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive	LIFE21-CET-CA-CAEPBD6/101102078	CAEPBD6	N/A	11/2022 -> 10/2027
Smart Tools for Smart Buildings: Enhancing the intelligence of buildings in Europe	LIFE21-CET-SMARTREADY-SMART SQUARE/101077241	SMART SQUARE	N/A	10/2022 -> 09/2025
Integrated Energy, Climate and Spatial planning	LIFE21-CET-LOCAL-IN-PLAN/101076428	IN-PLAN	N/A	10/2022 -> 03/2026
Energy Transition Audits towards Decarbonization	LIFE21-CET-AUDITS-EnTRAINER/101076424	EnTRAINER	N/A	12/2022 -> 11/2025
Access to Capital for Community Energy	LIFE21-CET-INNOFIN-ACCE/101077474	ACCE	N/A	11/2022 -> 10/2025
National Energy and Climate Platforms to deliver on the EU 2030 targets	LIFE21-CET-GOV-NECPlatform/101076359	NECPlatform	N/A	10/2022 -> 03/2025
Institutionalised cross-sector Planning and dedicated capacity building to ENable small and medium-sized	LIFE21-CET-LOCAL-PLENTY-LIFE/101081061	PLENTY-LIFE	N/A	11/2022 -> 10/2025

municipalities to develop and monitor sustainable strategies for the Transition to clean energy				
Co-creating Tools and Services for Smart Readiness Indicator Uptake	LIFE21-CET-SMARTREADY-SRI-ENACT/101077201	SRI-ENACT	N/A	12/2022 -> 05/2025
JUSTice in Transition and EMpowerment against energy poverty	LIFE21-CET-COALREGIONS-JUSTEM/101076151	JUSTEM	N/A	11/2022 -> 04/2025
Evaluation, Quantification and Strengthening of the Implementation of the Policies and EM&V under Article 7 of the EED	LIFE21-CET-POLICY-ENSMOV Plus/101076098	ENSMOV Plus	N/A	12/2022 -> 11/2025
Unlocking the potential of renewable cooling for a decarbonised cooling sector fit for the climate of the 21st century	LIFE21-CET-COOLING-COOLING DOWN/101077140	COOLING DOWN	N/A	11/2022 -> 04/2025
Energy Communities – Local Ownership of Power	LIFE21-CET-ENERCOM-LIFE-LOOP/101077085	LIFE-LOOP https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/101077085	N/A	10/2022 -> 09/2025