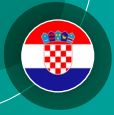




European Commission



LIFE Programme in Croatia

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 6 000 projects across the EU and in neighbouring countries. LIFE has contributed almost €8 billion to these projects, amounting to around two-thirds of the projects' overall budget of €12 billion. The LIFE Programme contributes directly to the objectives and targets of the European Green Deal.

The LIFE Programme includes the following sub-programmes:

-  NATURE & BIODIVERSITY
-  CIRCULAR ECONOMY & QUALITY OF LIFE
-  CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION
-  CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION

 BUDGET 2021-2027
→ **€5.4 billion**

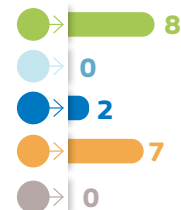


34 LIFE projects¹

17 LIFE Projects as coordinator (1992-2013)



17 LIFE Projects as coordinator (since 2014)



EU contribution² to LIFE projects since 1992 (€ million)

€49.1

All LIFE projects

€21.4

NATURE & BIODIVERSITY

€3.9

CIRCULAR ECONOMY & QUALITY OF LIFE

€4.5

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION

€10.9

CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION

€8.2

OTHER³

¹ Total number of project figures refer to projects coordinated by an organisation in the country in question since 1992.

LIFE projects financed since 2014 are publicly available on [QlikSense](https://qlikSense.com).

² Covers EU contribution to both project coordinators and project participants to multi-country projects.

³ OTHER includes NGO operating grants and Capacity Building (CAP) projects. The Technical Assistance (TA) and Preparatory (PRE) projects are included under the relevant sub-programmes.





FOCUS ON 2023-2024

LIFE NATURE & BIODIVERSITY

The Nature and Biodiversity sub-programme aims to protect and restore Europe's nature and to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. The subprogramme contributes to the implementation of the EU Birds and Habitats directives, the development and management of the Natura 2000 network, the Invasive Alien Species Regulation, and supports the achievement of the objectives of the EU Biodiversity strategy for 2030 and the newly adopted EU Nature Restoration Regulation.

> [More information on this sub-programme](#)



COORDINATOR of 5 ONGOING PROJECTS

The **DRAVA LIFE** project is the first inter-sectoral cooperation and integrated management initiative focusing on Croatian rivers. It aims to implement EU Directives (e.g. Water Framework, Floods, Birds and Habitats) to solve river ecosystem problems.

The **LIFE CONTRA Ailanthus** project aims to establishing control of the invasive alien species *Ailanthus altissima* (tree of heaven) in Croatia.

The **LIFE SUPport** project's goal is to improve breeding and survival conditions for the last remaining griffon vulture population in Croatia, located on the Kvarner Islands.

LIFE for Mauremys aims to address all known drivers of the Balkan terrapin's decline across 5 Natura 2000 sites in Dubrovnik-Neretva County, home to all known Croatian populations.

The recently co-funded **Improve River LIFE** focuses on saving the endangered *Salmothymus obtusirostris* (Soft-mouth trout), found only in Croatia, by restoring river connectivity in Natura 2000 sites and removing artificial barriers within its habitat see below.



© Bogdan Boev - LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE-SUPPORT/101074212. All rights reserved. Licensed to the European Union under conditions.

HIGHLIGHTED ONGOING PROJECT



© LIFE22-NAT-HR-Improve-River-LIFE/101114250. All rights reserved. Licensed to the European Union under conditions.

Improving degree of conservation of Natura 2000 target species and habitat types through improvement of river connectivity (Improve River LIFE)

> [Project summary](#)

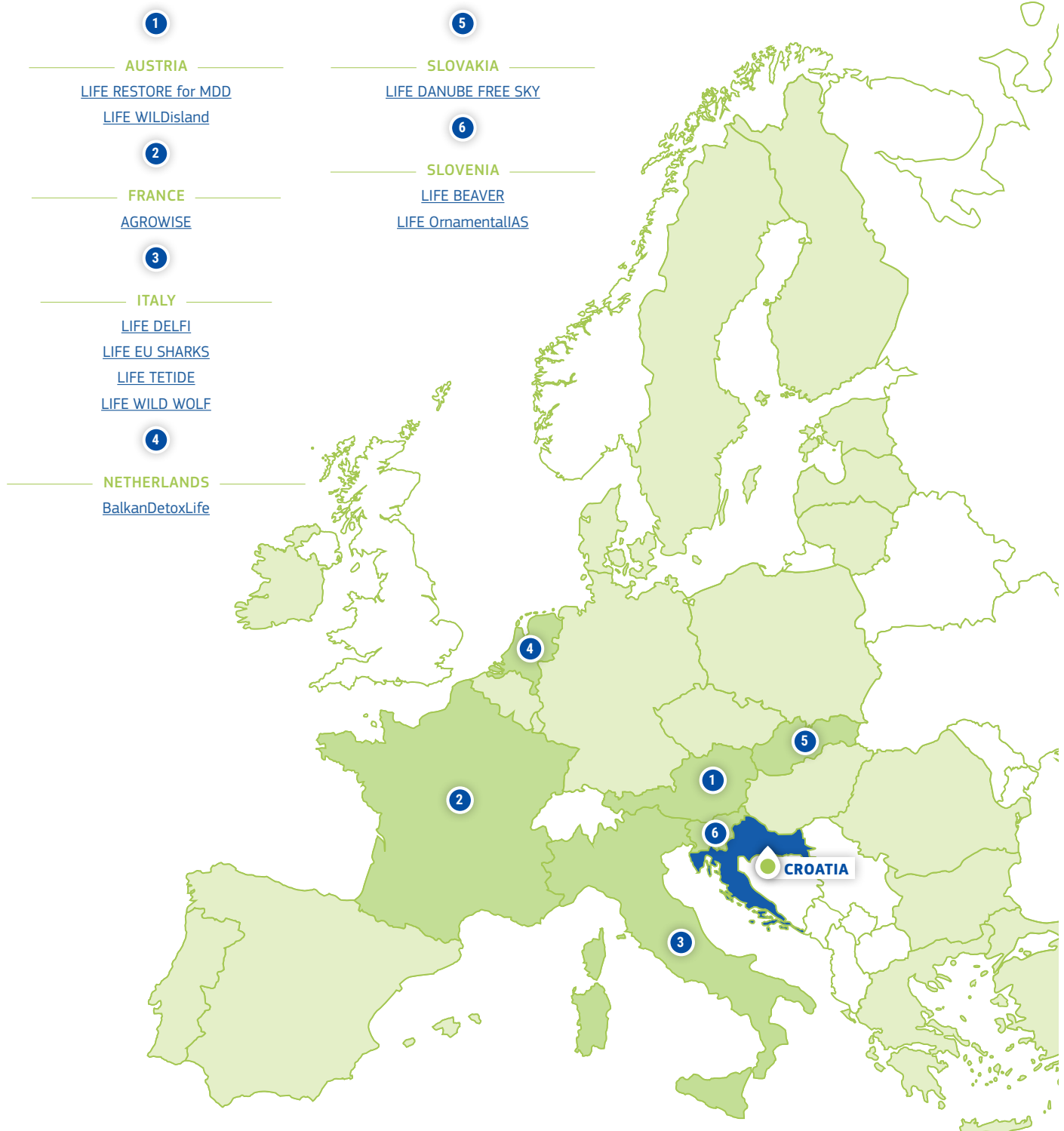
The Croatian consortium behind this project aims to save the *Salmothymus obtusirostris* (Softmouth trout) from the brink of extinction), an endangered species exclusively present in Croatia in the EU. The objective is to make key improvements in the condition of specific habitat features. This will primarily be achieved by ensuring river connectivity in Natura 2000 sites and removing artificial barriers in the area of species distribution.



Participants under the LIFE Nature & Biodiversity sub-programme

Croatian partners are also participating in 11 ongoing LIFE Nature & Biodiversity projects in 6 other EU Member States.

PARTICIPANT
in **11** ONGOING
PROJECTS





CIRCULAR ECONOMY & QUALITY OF LIFE

The Circular Economy and Quality of LIFE sub-programme aims to facilitate the transition toward a sustainable, circular, toxic-free, energy-efficient and climate-resilient economy and to protect, restore and improve the quality of the environment. The sub-programme mainly supports implementing innovative and best practice solutions, in particular with regard to the circular economy, including recovery of resources from waste, water, air, noise, soil and chemical management as well as environmental governance and the and the new European Bauhaus. Priority is given to solutions that are ready to be implemented in close-to-market conditions, at industrial or commercial scale.

[> More information on this sub-programme](#)

TOTAL INVESTMENT

2023-2024

€2 million



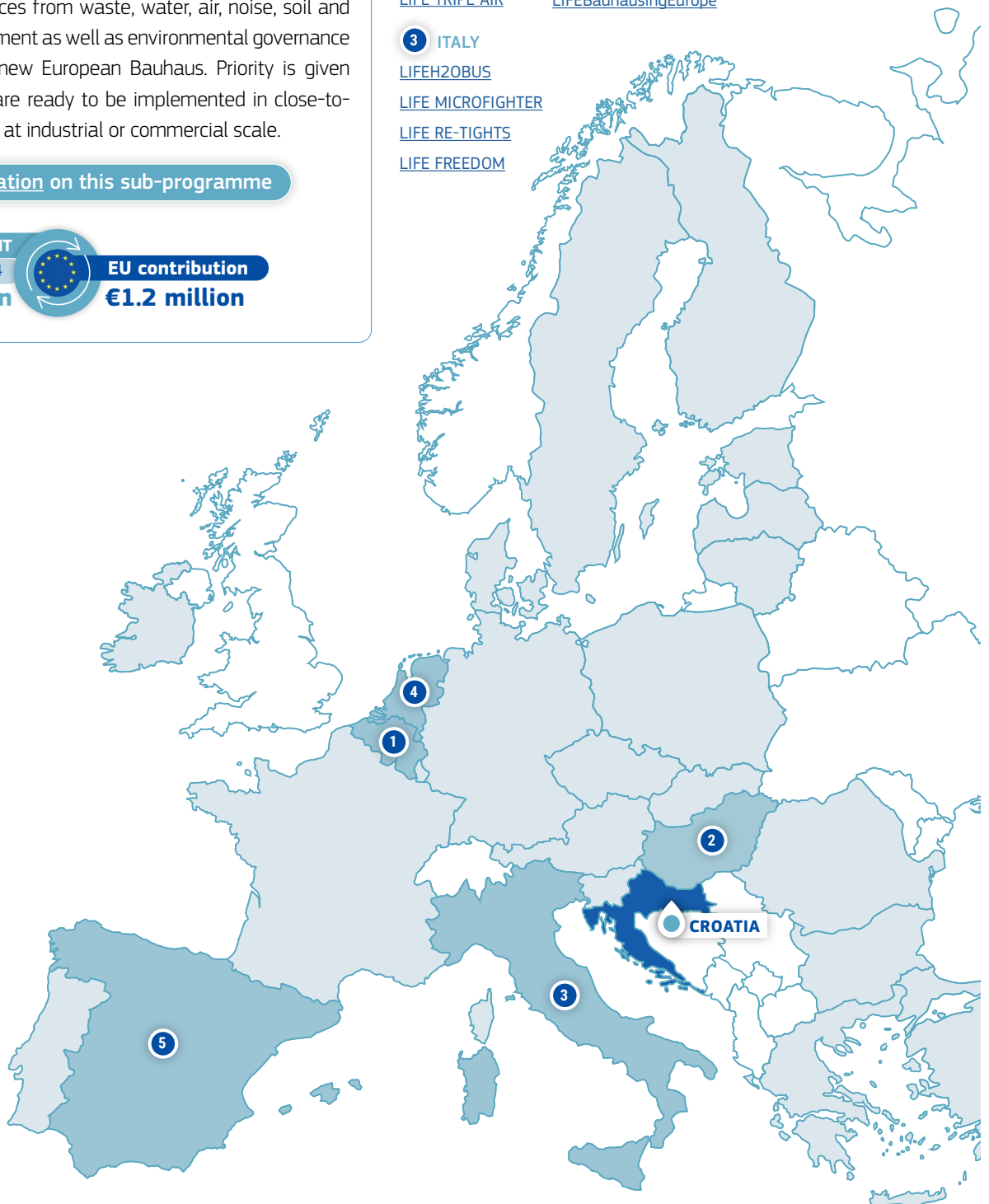
EU contribution

€1.2 million

PARTICIPANT in 8 ONGOING PROJECTS

Croatian partners are also participating in 8 ongoing LIFE Circular Economy & Quality of Life projects in 5 other EU Member States.

- 1 BELGIUM
[LIFE CityTRAO](#)
- 2 HUNGARY
[LIFE TRIPL-AIR](#)
- 3 ITALY
[LIFEH2OBUS](#)
[LIFE MICROFIGHTER](#)
[LIFE RE-TIGHTS](#)
[LIFE FREEDOM](#)
- 4 NETHERLANDS
[LIFE CICLE](#)
- 5 SPAIN
[LIFE BauhausingEurope](#)





LIFE CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION

The LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation sub-programme supports actions that support the implementation of 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 contribute to the shift towards a sustainable, energy-efficient, renewable-energy-based, climate-neutral and climate-resilient economy.

> [More information on this sub-programme](#)



COORDINATOR
of **2 ONGOING**
PROJECTS

The **LIFE CROLIS** project aims to develop and implement a harmonised land monitoring data model that enables the integration and processing of Land Cover, Land Use and land management data from different data sources.

The **LIFE4GREENBROADBAND** project aims to enhance energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in Croatia’s telecommunications sector to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. It seeks to implement energy-efficient technologies like solar plants and free cooling at base stations, aiming to cut CO₂ emissions and energy consumption. The project also promotes awareness, policy improvements, and best practices to help the telecom industry transition towards sustainability. By 2024, it aims to reduce CO₂ emissions by over 400 tonnes in Croatia, and by 2027, 3 500 tonnes across European networks.



© LIFE20 CCM/HR/001616. All rights reserved. Licensed to the European Union under conditions.

PARTICIPANT
in **1 ONGOING**
PROJECT

Croatian partners are also participating in 1 ongoing LIFE Climate Mitigation & Adaptation project in 1 other EU Member State.

1 BELGIUM
[LIFE TogetherFor1.5](#)





LIFE CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION

The LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme supports the delivery of EU policies in the field of sustainable energy, in particular, the European Green Deal, the Energy Union (2030 energy and climate targets) and the European Union's 2050 long-term decarbonisation strategy. It aims to facilitate the transition towards an energy-efficient, renewable energy-based, climate-neutral and -resilient economy by funding actions of high EU added-value, which are targeted at breaking market barriers that hamper the transition to sustainable energy.

> [More information on this sub-programme](#)

TOTAL INVESTMENT

2023-2024

€6.8 million



EU contribution

€6.5 million



COORDINATOR
of 6 ONGOING
PROJECTS

The D2Heat project, with Croatia's 4 largest direct heating (DH) companies, aims to develop a technical support facility and invest €39.9 million in renewable energy, heat storage, retrofitting pipes, and upgrading monitoring and control systems.

The crOss renoHome project aims to create a marketplace and one-stop-shops for homeowners and experts, offering full-service renovation packages. It will unify renovation processes across Croatia, making homes more energy-efficient and fossil fuel independent.

IN-PLAN - Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Romania and Sweden. The project focuses on developing and implementing the IN-PLAN practice to support sustainable energy and climate planning for local and regional authorities.

CEESEN-BENDER - Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Poland, Romania and Slovenia. The project aims to renovate old buildings in Eastern Europe and train 3,500 people on energy upgrades.

CROSS - Belgium and Croatia. The project aims to modernise public buildings in Croatia with a focus on renovations and advanced funding.

LIFE-COMET - Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovenia. The project focuses on creating energy communities and coalitions across Eastern Europe and facilitating training and best practice exchange.



© Pexels - Scott Webb



HIGHLIGHTED
PROJECT

LIFE21-CET-BUILDSKILLS-CRO skills RELOAD

> [Project summary](#)

Recent analysis of Croatia's renovation process underscored the critical need to boost energy renovations, as only 0.7% of the building stock was renovated annually from 2014 to 2020. Energy-inefficient buildings, responsible for 40% of energy consumption and 36% of CO₂ emissions, with 30% of buildings performing poorly in terms of energy efficiency, highlighted the urgency of increasing renovations and adopting nearly zero-energy buildings (nZEB). The concluded CRO skills RELOAD project successfully advanced Croatia's national energy and climate goals by enhancing the National Qualification Platform and Roadmap. It addressed all facets of the renovation ecosystem, including education and skills development for future nZEB specialists, and built on previous skills initiatives to support sustainable construction and decarbonisation objectives.



Participants under the LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme

Croatian partners are also participating in 39 ongoing LIFE Clean Energy Transition projects in 16 other EU Member States.

PARTICIPANT
in **39** ONGOING
PROJECTS

1
AUSTRIA
[install.res](#)

2
BELGIUM
[INNOFIN-ACCE](#)
[ENERCOM FACILITY](#)

3
BULGARIA
[DiVIRTUE](#)

4
CZECHIA
[streamSAVEplus](#)

5
DENMARK
[CAEPBD6](#)
[INDICATE LIFE](#)

6
ESTONIA
[CEESEU-DIGIT](#)

7
FRANCE
[OdysseeMure fit-4-55](#)
[GOV-NECPlatform](#)
[ENERCOM-LIFE-LOOP](#)
[EUCF-LIFE EUCF](#)
[SPARKLE](#)

8
GERMANY
[tunES](#)
[ESCALATE](#)

9
GREECE
[SMARTREADY-SRI-ENACT](#)
[REDI4HEAT](#)
[SMAFIN Expanded](#)

10
ITALY
[ENERCOM-CONNECTHEAT](#)

[LIFE ISLET](#)
[DISCOVER](#)
[HeatMineDH](#)
[LEAPto11](#)
[TOP CLever](#)
[DHC SwEEtch](#)
[ENABLE DHC](#)
[REFINEE](#)

11
NETHERLANDS
[REGIO1ST](#)
[ENSMOV Plus](#)
[COALREGIONS-JUSTEM](#)
[ENERPOV-RENOVERTY](#)
[SMARTREADY-SRI2MARKET](#)

[ENEFIRST PLUS](#)
[OBSERVE](#)

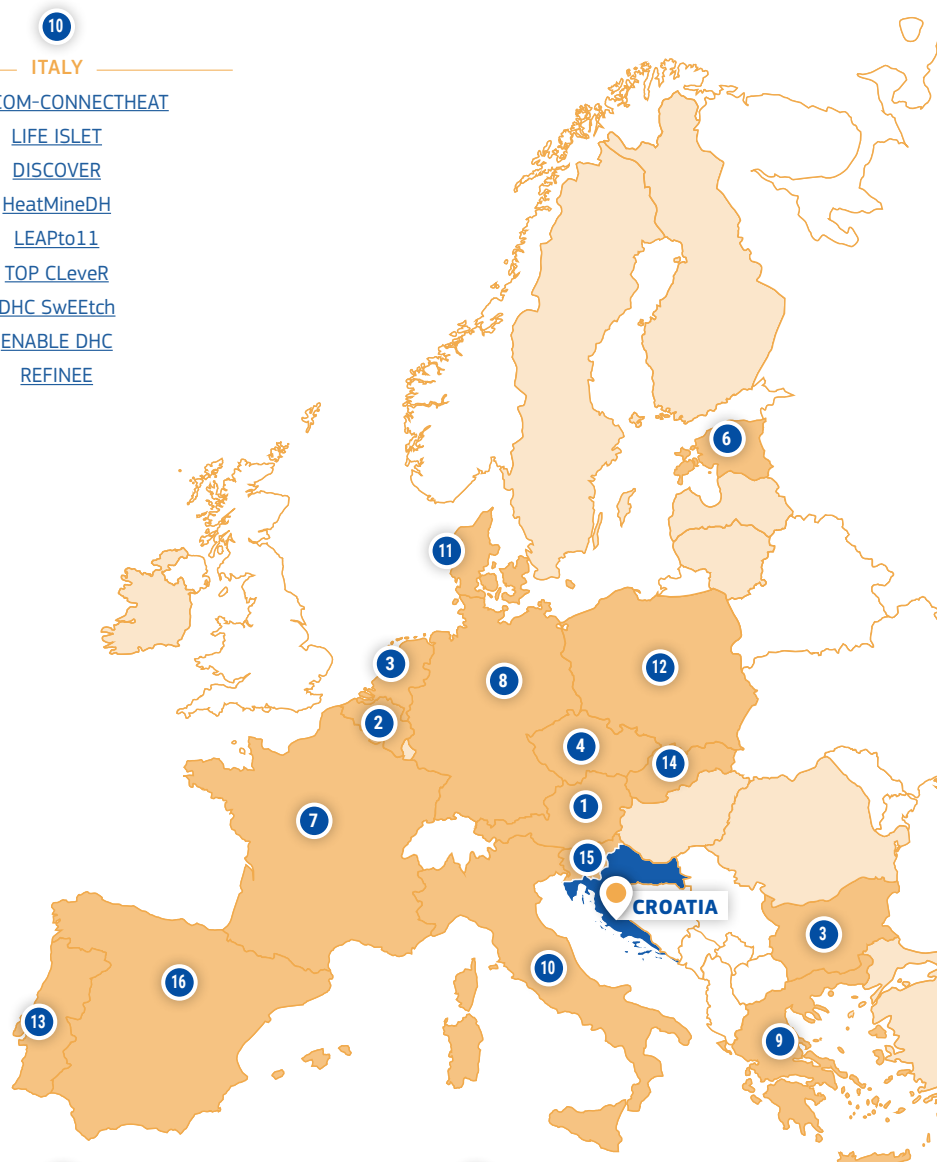
12
POLAND
[SET HEAT](#)

13
PORTUGAL
[Plan4Cold](#)

14
SLOVAKIA
[ComActivate](#)

15
SLOVENIA
[LOCAL GoGREEN](#)

16
SPAIN
[LIFE ReHABITA](#)





OTHER

This section includes NGO operating grants and Capacity Building (CAP) projects.

In addition to providing direct co-financing to projects, LIFE also provides operating grants that enable non-profit entities to raise awareness of environmental issues and contribute to policy-making by representing citizens' views.

These organisations facilitate dialogue with stakeholders and ensure public concerns on the environment and climate change are addressed, providing a democratic counter-balance to other interests.

[More information on this sub-programme](#)



PARTICIPANT in 1 ONGOING PROJECT

Croatia is participating in the [Net4LIFE](#) project, which is coordinated by Cyprus.



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT LIFE?

VISIT THE [LIFE WEBSITE](#), [LIFE PROJECT DATABASE](#) AND WATCH THE [LIFE PROGRAMME VIDEO](#)

FOLLOW THE LIFE PROGRAMME ON SOCIAL MEDIA

ec.europa.eu/LIFE [LIFE programme](#) [@LIFEprogramme](#)
[@LIFEprogramme](#) [LIFE programme](#) [@LIFEprogrammeEU](#)

SIGN UP TO THE [LIFE PROGRAMME](#) AND [CINEA CLEAN ENERGY NEWSLETTERS](#)

CONTACT THE LIFE NATIONAL CONTACT POINT IN YOUR MEMBER STATE

[WEBSITE](#) → [European National Contact Points - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

ONGOING NATURE & BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS COORDINATED BY CROATIAN BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT ACRONYM	PROJECT DURATION
Improving degree of conservation of Natura 2000 target species and habitat types through improvement of river connectivity	LIFE22-NAT-HR-Improve-River-LIFE/101114250	Improve River LIFE	01/09/2023 - 31/08/2028
Securing a future for Griffon Vultures in Croatia	LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE-SUPport/101074212	LIFE SUPport	01/01/2023 - 31/12/2027
Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County	LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE-for-Mauremys/101071737	LIFE for Mauremys	01/10/2022 - 30/09/2026



ONGOING NATURE & BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS COORDINATED BY CROATIAN BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT ACRONYM	PROJECT DURATION
Establishing control of invasive alien species <i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (tree of heaven) in Croatia	LIFE19 NAT/HR/001070	LIFE CONTRA Ailanthus	01/10/2020 - 01/04/2025
DRAVA LIFE Integrated River Management	LIFE14 NAT/HR/000115	DRAVA LIFE	01/12/2015 - 30/11/2024

ONGOING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION PROJECTS COORDINATED BY CROATIAN BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT ACRONYM	PROJECT DURATION
Reducing CO2 emissions of the electronic communications network by implementing free cooling and solar power solutions	LIFE20 CCM/HR/001616	LIFE4GREENBROADBAND	05/07/2021 - 31/12/2024
Croatian Land Information System	LIFE19 GIC/HR/001270	LIFE CROLIS	01/10/2020 - 31/12/2026

ONGOING CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION PROJECTS COORDINATED BY CROATIAN BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT ACRONYM	PROJECT DURATION
Croatian One Stop Shop for Integrated Home Renovation	LIFE22-CET-crOss-renoHome/101120096	crOss renoHome	01/10/2023 - 30/09/2027
Coalitions for Community Energy Catalyzation in Eastern EU	LIFE22-CET-LIFE-COMET/101120519	LIFE-COMET	01/11/2023 - 31/10/2026
Croatian district heating sector support facility	LIFE21-CET-PDA-D2Heat/101076771	PDA-D2Heat	01/11/2022 - 31/10/2026
Building interventions in vulnerable districts against energy poverty	LIFE22-CET-CEESEN-BENDER/101120994	CEESEN-BENDER	01/09/2023 - 31/08/2026
Establishment of Croatian One-Stop-Shop facility in North-West Croatia	LIFE22-CET-CROSS/101119637	CROSS	01/09/2023 - 31/08/2026
Integrated Energy, Climate and Spatial planning	LIFE21-CET-LOCAL-IN-PLAN/101076428	LOCAL-IN-PLAN	01/10/2022 - 31/03/2026

OTHER ONGOING PROJECTS COORDINATED BY CROATIAN BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT ACRONYM	PROJECT DURATION
Network for LIFE National Contact Points	LIFE21-PRE-CY-Net4LIFE/101086620	Net4LIFE	01/02/2023 - 31/07/2025