

LIFE Programme in Croatia



Facts and figures

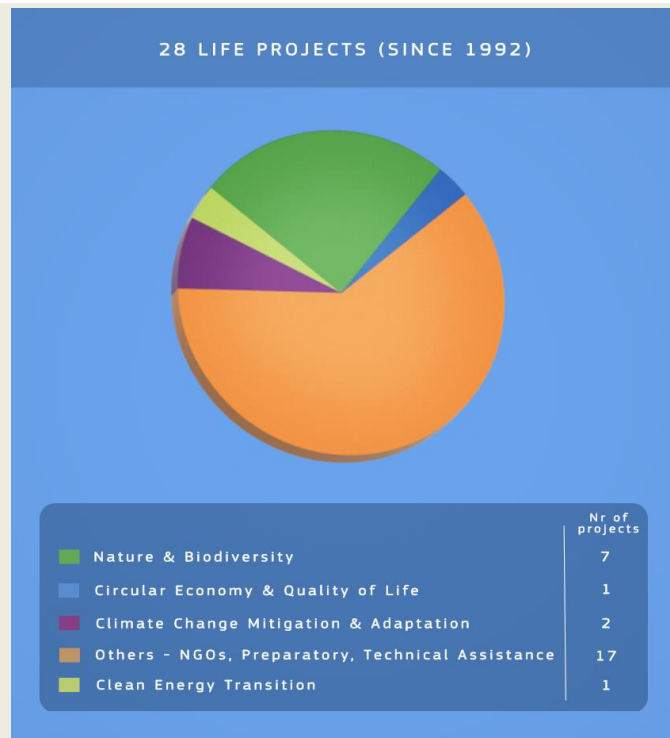
The LIFE Programme has funded 28 projects in Croatia over 19 coordinating beneficiaries with total project costs of €40.5m, of which the EU contributed €24m.

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 CROATIA (€ million)

	TOTAL INVESTMENT	EU CONTRIBUTION
ALL LIFE projects	40.5	24
Nature & Biodiversity	20	12.5
Circular Economy & Quality of Life	1.8	0.9
Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation	8.4	3.8
Others - NGOs, Preparatory, Technical Assistance	10.2	7
Clean Energy Transition	0.2	0.1

(*) 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 a renewable energy based- and climate- resilient economy. 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.

To date, the Climate Change strand has co-financed two ongoing projects in Croatia. The total investment for these projects amounts to €8.4 million, of which the EU is contributing €3.8 million.

The LIFE CROLIS project aims to develop and implement a harmonised land monitoring data model that enables the integration and processing of Land Cover (LC), Land Use (LU) and land management data from different data sources. The LIFE4GREENBROADBAND project's main objective is to increase the Croatian electronic communications network's energy efficiency and use of renewable energy, in order to reduce GHG emissions.



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, Croatia participates in one project co-funded under this strand. Global Green Growth Institute participates in the ENERGATE project. The total investment represents €0.2 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 seven projects in Croatia. These represent a total investment of €20 million, of which €12.5 million has been contributed by the EU.

The closed LIFE EUROTURTLES project aimed to improve the conservation status of the EU populations of two priority sea turtle species, the loggerhead turtle and the green turtle. Four projects are ongoing under this strand. 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 Artina project will help designate marine Special Protection Areas in Croatia, drawing up a list of proposed SPAs and suggested management measures for them. The Dinara back to LIFE project aims to protect and restore dry grassland habitats and their characteristic species in Natura 2000 network sites in the Dinara Mountains of Croatia. The most recently co-funded LIFE CONTRA *Ailanthus* project aims at 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.



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 one project in Croatia thus far, representing a total investment of €1.8 million, of which €0.9 million has been provided by the EU.

The overall objective of the closed LIFE.SU.SA.FRUIT project was to develop, apply and demonstrate an economically-viable strategy for the implementation of integrated pest management (IPM) in orchards and in post-harvest fruit production in typical Croatian and Italian agro-ecosystems by promoting the use of low-chemical approaches. The project was coordinated by the University of Zagreb (Faculty of Agriculture).

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

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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 Artina - seabird conservation network in the Adriatic	LIFE17 NAT/HR/000594	LIFE Artina	http://www.lifearthina.eu	09/2018 -> 08/2023
Management planning and restoration of Dinara dry grasslands to save biodiversity and support sustainable development	LIFE18 NAT/HR/000847	Dinara back to LIFE	https://dinarabacktolife.eu	01/2020 -> 07/2023
Establishing control of invasive alien species Ailanthus altissima (tree of heaven) in Croatia	LIFE19 NAT/HR/001070	LIFE CONTRA Ailanthus	https://lifeailanthus.hr/	01/2020 -> 07/2023
Securing a future for Griffon Vultures in Croatia	LIFE21-NAT-HR- LIFE SUPport/10107421 2	LIFE SUPport	N/A	01/2023 -> 12/2027
Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County	LIFE21-NAT-HR- LIFE for Mauremys/101071 737	LIFE for Mauremys	N/A	10/2022 -> 09/2026

Ongoing LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
CROatian Land Information System	LIFE19 GIC/HR/001270	LIFE CROLIS	https://lifeprogramhrvatska.hr/hr/life-crolis-hrvatski-zemljisni-informacijski-sustav-life19-gic-hr-001270/	10/2020 -> 04/2024
Reducing CO2 emissions of the electronic communications network by implementing free cooling and solar power solutions	LIFE20 CCM/HR/001616	LIFE4GREENBROADBAND		07/2021 -> 12/2024

Ongoing Clean Energy Transition projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
Energy Efficiency Aggregation platform for Sustainable Investments	LIFE21-CET- MAINSTREAM- ENERGATE/101076 349	ENERGATE	N/A	01/2023 -> 06/2025