



LIFE Strategic Projects

Fabio Dalan, María-José Aramburu, Sarunas Zableckis

CINEA - LIFE Programme



LIFE Info Day 23/04/2024

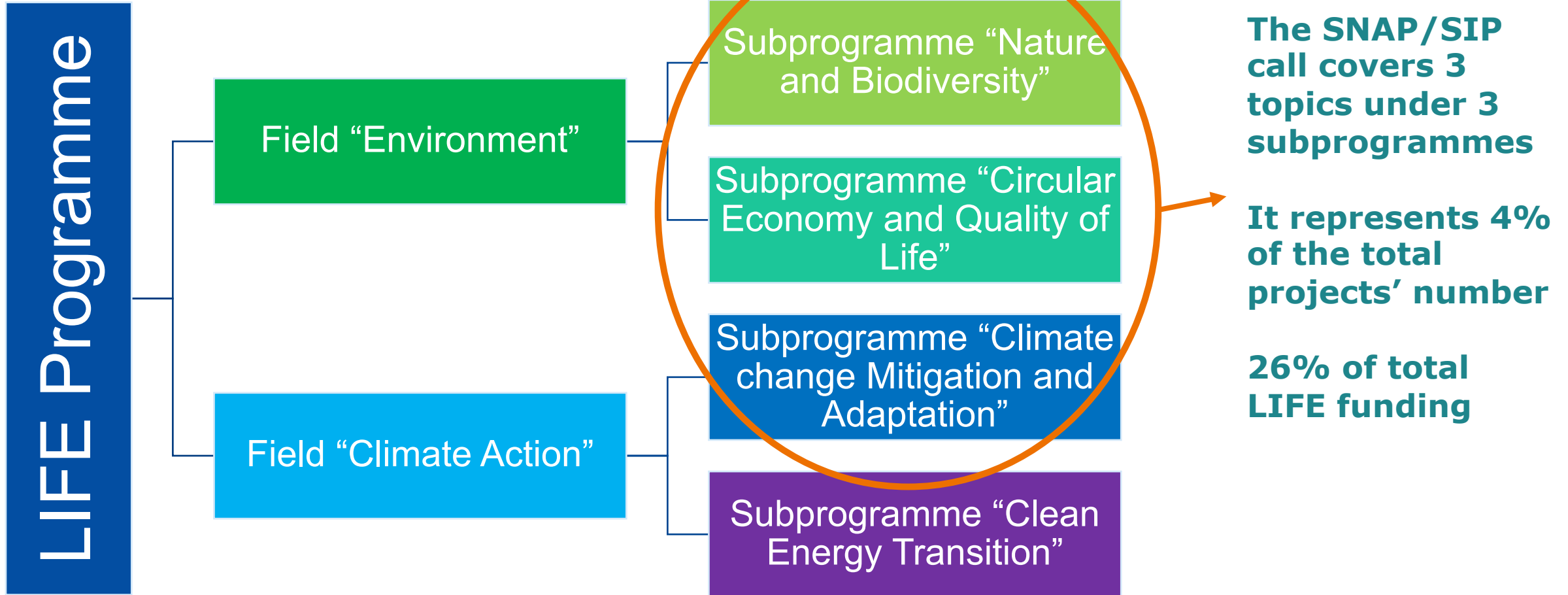
European Climate,
Infrastructure and
Environment
Executive Agency

Overview

- Introduction to the Strategic Projects 2024 call (María-José Aramburu & Fabio Dalan)
- How can Strategic Projects help implementation of environment and climate policy priorities – SNAP example (Przemyslaw OGINSKI – DG ENV)
- Experienced STRAT project presentation: C-MARTLIFE
- Q&A



The LIFE Programme 2021-2027



Strategic Projects (SIPs/SNAPs) – Key features

1. Designed to implement certain **plans and strategies**
2. Implemented at a **large territorial scale**
3. Managed by the **competent authority** or entity responsible for the implementation of the plan / strategy targeted
4. Full engagement of all the concerned **stakeholders**
5. Mobilise, engage & coordinate **complementary funding sources** to further support the implementation of the ambitious EU environmental/climate policy framework
6. **Duration** not fixed but limited (maximum 14 years). Usually between 8-10 years.

SIPs/SNAPs are defined in Article 2 of the **LIFE Regulation** and are further specified in the Multiannual Work Programme 2021-2024 (section 4.1.2)



Strategic Projects - Targeted plans

SNAP

1. **Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs) under the Habitats Directive**
2. **Other plans or strategies adopted at international, national, multiregional or regional level by the authorities, that implement EU nature and/or biodiversity policy or legislation e.g.:**
 - **EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030**
 - **EU Forest Strategy 2030**
 - **EU Pollinators Initiative**
 - **Nature Restoration Law**
 - **EU Green Infrastructure Strategy**
 - **EU Regulation on Invasive Alien Species**



SIP – Environment

1. **Circular Economy: National or Regional Circular Economy Action Plans, Strategies, Roadmaps or similar**
2. **Water: River Basin Management Plans under the Water FD & Flood Risk Management Plans & Marine Strategies**
3. **Waste: Waste Management Plans and/or Waste Prevention Programmes under the Waste FD**
4. **Air: Local/ regional Air Quality Plans, and National Air Pollution Control Programmes**

SIP – Climate Action

1. **CCA: National or regional adaptation strategies or action plans;**
2. **Urban or community-based action plans pioneering the transition to a climate neutral and/or climate resilient society including climate-neutral cities plans and actions and Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans;**
3. **CCM: National Energy and Climate Plans;**
4. **CCM: National, regional or industry/ sector-specific greenhouse gas mitigation strategies or economy roadmaps contributing to climate neutrality.**

The rationale behind the design of a Strategic Project

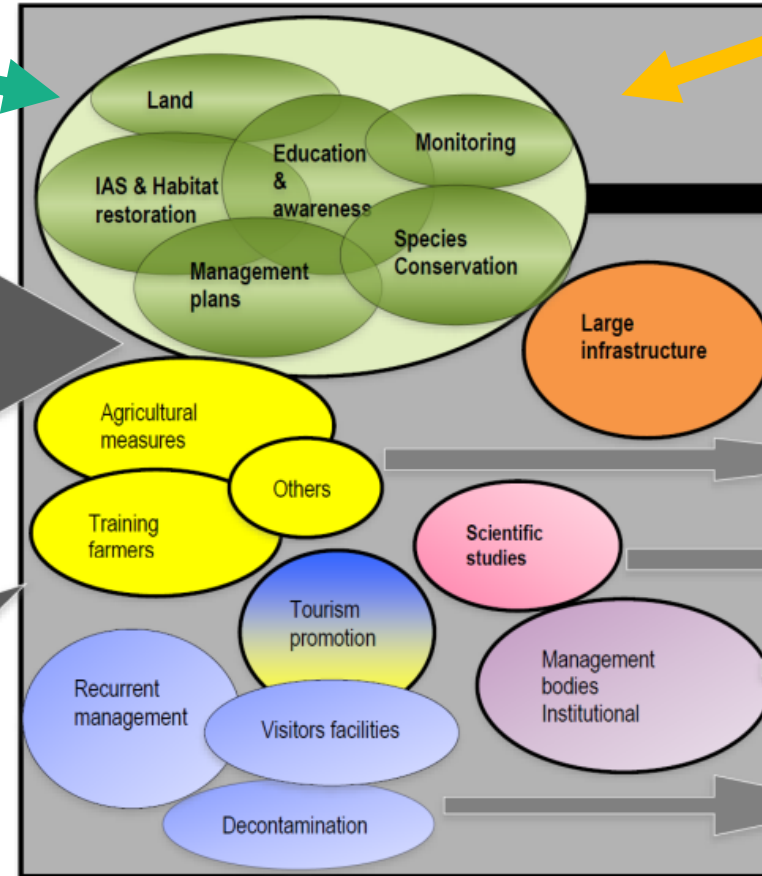
Elements to consider:

- Full implementation of the selected Strategy/ Plan
- Scale of the project - Strategy/ Plan selected
- Complementary Funding/actions Mobilisation of other funds
- Stakeholder involvement
- Lead applicant/ Competent Body + Associated beneficiaries (at least 1) + key stakeholders
- LIFE funding (for catalytic function, demonstration of best practice)
- Coordination mechanism
- Capacity development

This is the Strategic Project itself

Competent Body
Region X + stakeholders

National/
private funds



The measures in the grey box are those included in the targeted plan

LIFE IP EC
60% + co-financing 40%

Cohesion Fund

EAFRD

Horizon 2020

ESF

ERDF

FULL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
Followed by further plans in subsequent periods

FAVOURABLE CONSERVATION STATUS OF HABITATS AND SPECIES

Strategic Projects (SIPs/SNAPs) – Funding

Plan/strategy implemented by the SNAP/SIP:

Complementary actions/measures (X, Y, Z...) financed by other funds (EU/national/private)...at least 1 non-LIFE fund mobilised

LIFE SNAP/SIP	
LIFE co-financing: Up to 60%	Own contribution: 40% No other EU funds involved!!



Stage 1: Concept note - evaluation criteria

Concept Note stage – Yes/No criteria

1. Implementation of plans or strategies
2. Territorial coverage
3. Coordination of complementary funds
4. Involvement of key stakeholders

The Concept note must meet all four criteria for the applicant to be invited to present a full proposal.



Stage 2: Full proposal - evaluation criteria

1. Relevance

Policy + Project macro approach

2. Impact

Performance, Ambition and Credibility of Impacts + KPI + Sustainability (Exploitation & Replication)

3. Quality

Clarity + Feasibility + Appropriateness of few specific aspects

4. Resources

Project team + Budget + Project env. Footprint

5. Complementary funding

Level and likelihood of mobilization of other funds + functional link to strategy + quality of coordination mechanism + complementary actions



Call 2024: LIFE-2024-STRAT-two-stage

Timetable and deadlines(indicative)	
Call opening:	18 April 2024
<u>Deadline for submission (concept note):</u>	<u>05 September 2024– 17:00:00 CET (Brussels)</u>
Information on evaluation results (concept note):	November 2024 (indicative)
Consultation i.e. Q&A phase:	January 2025 - March 2025
<u>Deadline for submission (full proposal):</u>	<u>6 March 2025 (indicative) – 17:00:00 CET (Brussels)</u>
Information on evaluation results:	June 2025 (indicative)
GA signature:	November 2025



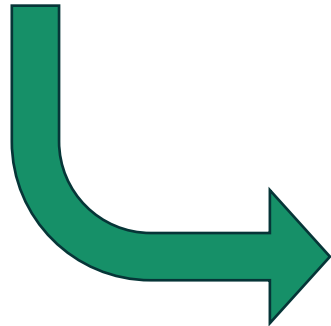
Strategic Project Calls & funding in 2024

Topic	Topic Budget	Indicative range of project budgets	Indicative # of projects	Indicative expected project duration
LIFE-2024-STRAT-NAT-SNaP	EUR 70 million	EUR 10-30 million	3 – 5 projects	60 - 120 months
LIFE-2024-STRAT-ENV-SIP	EUR 50 million	EUR 10-30 million	3 - 4 projects	60 - 120 months
LIFE-2024-STRAT-CLIMA-SIP	EUR 30 million	EUR 10-30 million	2 - 3 projects	60 - 120 months



Support available to prepare a proposal

- NCPs to organise meetings with potential beneficiaries
- Info in [LIFE Calls for proposals web](#), including FAQs
- [Integrated projects factsheet](#) and infographic available on the CINEA LIFE website.
- Technical Assistance projects



Technical Assistance call for proposals

- To support preparation of Strategic Projects (SIPs & SNaPs)
- Main objective: prepare & submit a full proposal
- Co-financing rate: 60%
- Maximum grant: 70.000 €
- Maximum duration: 2 yrs
- New Call: LIFE-2024-TA-PP



Support available to prepare a proposal - CINEA

- CINEA can:
 - ✓ Respond to general questions on STRATs
 - ✓ Respond to specific questions related to STRATs Call documents, application forms, concerned provisions of the Multiannual Work Programme
 - ✓ Facilitate networking with successful running SIPs/SNAPs
- CINEA cannot:
 - ✓ Read or advise on draft applications



CINEA-LIFE-ENQUIRIES@ec.europa.eu



Thanks and...
Good proposal writing!

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