

LIFE Programme in Lithuania



Facts and figures

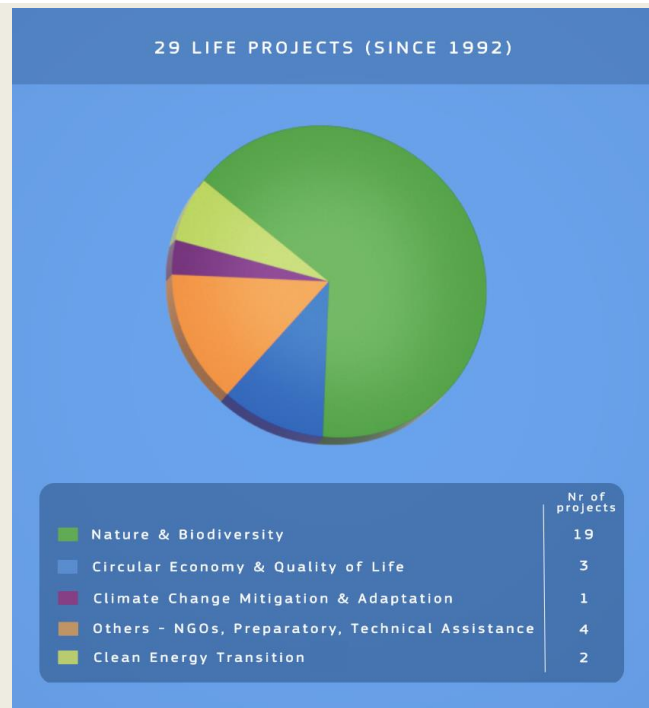
The LIFE Programme has funded 29 projects in Lithuania over 18 coordinating beneficiaries with total project costs of €76m, of which the EU contributed €46m.

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 LITHUANIA (€ million)

	TOTAL INVESTMENT	EU CONTRIBUTION
ALL LIFE projects	76	46
Nature & Biodiversity	53	32.5
Circular Economy & Quality of Life	10.5	6
Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation	11	6.5
Others - NGOs, Preparatory, Technical Assistance	1.3	0.9
Clean Energy Transition (*)	0.4	0.4

(*) 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, one ongoing Strategic Integrated Project has been co-funded in Lithuania. Its total investment amounts to €11 million, of which the EU is contributing €6.5 million. The LIFE IP EnerLIT project's objectives are described below.



More energy efficiency. Fewer GHG emissions (LIFE IP EnerLIT) LIFE20 IPC/LT/000002

Lithuania has pledged to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 40% by 2030. The country's national energy and climate plan (NECP) outlines how the country intends to lower emissions and increase energy efficiency. The plan states that the industrial, building and transport sectors have the greatest potential to improve energy efficiency. The Environmental Projects Management Agency, part of Lithuania's Ministry of Environment, will help implement the NECP via this Integrated Project. The team wants to galvanise energy efficiency measures and build national and regional capacity to reach climate objectives. This will help the country's transport, building and industry sectors achieve energy efficiency targets and reduce GHG emissions. Thanks to this Integrated Project, Lithuania should see more sustainable and efficient buildings, climate-friendly mobility, energy-saving industry, and green public procurement.

[Project summary](#)



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, Lithuania coordinates one project co-funded under this strand. The first objective of the REBOOT-SKILLS-LT project is to revitalise a construction sector stakeholders' network in Lithuania (employers' and workers' organisations, educational and training centres, public authorities) supporting the upskilling of building professionals, while attracting more than 100 stakeholders. The second objective is to update the Status Quo Analysis and National Roadmap developed under the first phase of BUILD UP Skills (2011-2012, 'Pillar I') to reflect the new realities of the building sector in relation to 2030 energy and decarbonisation targets. The total budget amounts to €0.4 million, of which the EU is contributing 95%.

Lithuania also participates in another CET project, CAEPBD6, with Lietuvos Respublikos Aplinkos Ministerija. The total investment represents €0.03 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 19 projects in Lithuania. These represent a total investment of €53 million, of which €32.5 million has been contributed by the EU.

The completed projects achieved the following results: restoring favourable conditions to secure the survival of a number of threatened Lithuanian coastal habitats and species; ensuring the favourable conservation status of the European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*) in the North European lowlands; conserving white stork, aquatic warbler, bittern and other breeding bird species; restoring the natural hydrological and ecological functions of the Amalvas and Žuvintas wetlands, in order to achieve a favourable conservation status for the bog, swamp, wood and lake habitats of these proposed Sites of Community Importance; creating an ecological network in southern Lithuania; protecting the nesting sites of at least 10% of Lithuania’s lesser spotted eagle population (more than 200 pairs) from direct destruction and the indirect effects of timber harvesting; compiling inventories of marine species and habitats in the waters off the Lithuanian Exclusive Economic Zone; restoring and maintaining the favourable conservation status of the active raised bog habitat within the Aukstumales Telmological Reserve; and restoring the Amalva, Kamanos and Tyruliai bogs. One biodiversity project improved the conservation status of migratory, wintering and some breeding bird species in Lithuania, through a reduction in the negative impact of high voltage overhead electricity transmission lines. The LIFE OSMODERMA project tackled the isolation problem of the hermit beetle (*Osmoderma eremita*), an umbrella species that is very rare and protected throughout Europe, by creating an ecological network between Kaunas and Vilnius –two of Lithuania’s major cities. Apart from two projects implemented by Klaipeda University and Salantu National Park, respectively, the coordinating beneficiaries were NGOs.

There are four ongoing projects in Lithuania. Their objectives include: develop a cross-border Lithuania-Latvia ecological network plan and identify the functional ecological network for saproxylic invertebrates (dependent on dead or decaying wood); restore degraded habitats of the aquatic warbler in Lithuania, as well as in parts of Belarus; improve the conservation status - to favourable - of the common tern and little tern breeding populations in Lithuania; provide a climate-resilient network of critical sites for the lesser white-fronted goose in Europe; and to use sustainable farming and mobile grazing to maintain favourable conservation status for populations of corncrake, great snipe, black-tailed godwit, common redshank and other species and habitats of EU importance in wet grasslands and mires in 6 SPAs

One Strategic Nature Project is ongoing in Lithuania. The PAF-NATURALIT project’s objectives are described below.



Optimising nature management in Lithuania (PAF-NATURALIT) LIFE16 IPE/LT/000016

The PAF-NATURALIT project will improve the management of Natura 2000 network sites in Lithuania, to the benefit of protected habitats and species. The project’s focus is on implementing the prioritised action framework (PAF) for the entire Natura 2000 network in Lithuania. Demonstration activities will also be implemented in selected regions representing different geographical and natural conditions: the Žemaitija, Dzkija and Auktaitija natural parks, Labanoras regional park and Čepkeliai nature reserve.

Specifically, the project aims to positively change the conservation status of at least 18 habitat types of Community interest (33% of all Habitats Directive habitat types nationally); improve the conservation status of at least 19 species of Community interest (19% of all species nationally reported under the Habitats Directive); and improve population trends of at least 23 bird species (11% of all bird species reported under the Birds Directive).

[Project summary](#)



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 three projects in Lithuania thus far, representing a total investment of €10.5 million, of which €6 million has been provided by the EU.

The closed LIFE Viva Grass project contributed to the improvement of land use and nature conservation policies and to the legal framework for the long-term maintenance of grassland biodiversity and the ecosystem services they provide.

There are two ongoing projects under this strand. The NutriBiomass4LIFE project will create and demonstrate a full-scale self-sustainable closed-loop circular economy model for nutrient-rich waste recycling for Vilnius. The AlgaeService for LIFE project will test two prototype algae and cyanobacteria harvesting machines in real-world conditions on rivers, lakes and the Curonian Lagoon.

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
Stepping stones towards ensuring long-term favourable conservation status of Aquatic warbler in Lithuania	LIFE15 NAT/LT/001024	LIFEMagniDucatusAcrola	https://meldine.lt/	07/2016 -> 01/2023
Providing a climate resilient network of critical sites for the Lesser White-fronted Goose in Europe	LIFE19 NAT/LT/000898	LIFE LWfG CLIMATE	https://wwf.fi/en/lesser-white-fronted-goose-life-project/	09/2020 -> 08/2025
Adaptation of wet grasslands and mires for sustainable farming to ensure long-term protection of Corncrake and threatened waders	LIFE21-NAT-LT-LIFEfarms for birds/101074711	LIFEfarms for birds	N/A	09/2022 -> 12/2027
Optimizing the management of Natura 2000 network in Lithuania	LIFE16 IPE/LT/000016	PAF-NATURALIT	http://lifeprojektai.lt/en/life-projects/lithuanian-life-projects/optimizing-the-management-of-natura-2000-network-in-lithuania-life-ip-paf-naturalit/	01/2018 -> 12/2027

Ongoing LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
Nutrient recycling circular economy model for large cities – water treatment sludge and ashes to biomass to bio-energy	LIFE17 ENV/LT/000310	NutriBiomass4LIFE	http://www.nutribiomass.eu/	07/2018-> 09/2023
ALGAE – ECONOMY BASED ECOLOGICAL SERVICE OF AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS	LIFE17 ENV/LT/000407	AlgaeService for LIFE	http://algaeservice.gamtostyrimai.lt	08/2018-> 07/2023

Ongoing LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
Improving energy efficiency in Lithuania	LIFE20 IPC/LT/000002	LIFE IP EnerLIT	N/A	10/2021 -> 12/2030

Ongoing Clean Energy Transition projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
BUILD UP Skills Lithuania – rebooting the National Construction Platform and Roadmap	LIFE21-CET-BUILDSKILLS-REBOOT-SKILLS-LT/101076274	REBOOT-SKILLS-LT	N/A	08/2022 -> 01/2024
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