



European Commission

# LIFE Programme in Ireland

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.

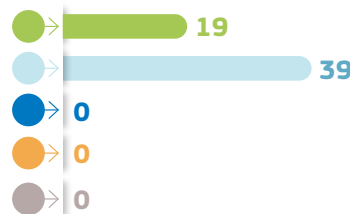
The LIFE Programme includes the following sub-programmes:

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

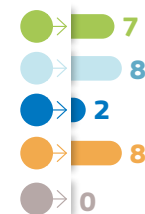
 BUDGET 2021-2027  
→ **€5.4 billion**

 **83 LIFE projects<sup>1</sup>**

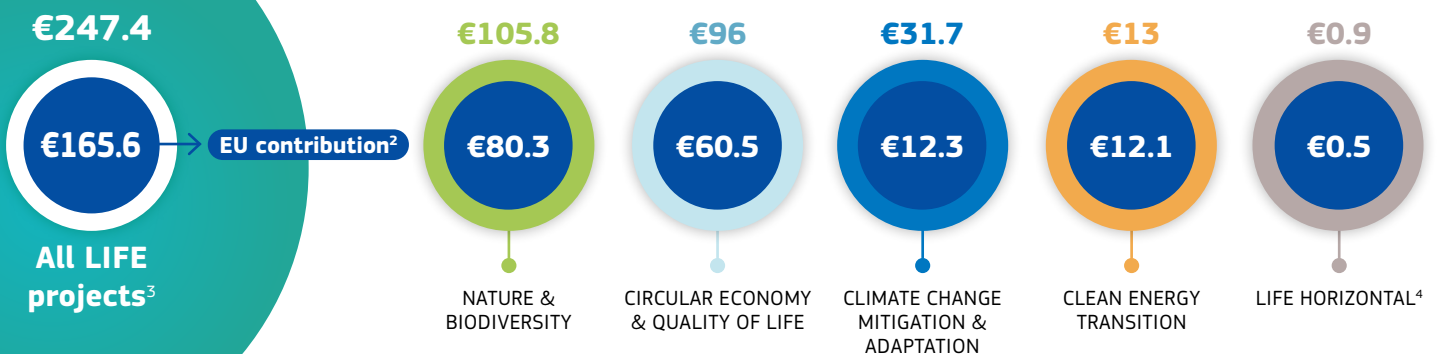
**58 LIFE Projects**  
as coordinator (1992-2013)



**25 LIFE Projects**  
as coordinator (since 2014)



## Total investment in LIFE projects since 1992 (€ million)



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](#).  
 2 Covers EU contribution to both project coordinators and project participants to multi-country projects.  
 3 Total investment = Eligible cost + Land purchase.  
 4 LIFE HORIZONTAL includes NGO operating grants and Capacity Building (CB) 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](#)

**TOTAL INVESTMENT**  
2023-2024

**€34.6 million**

**EU contribution**  
**€20.9 million**



### LIFE Strategic Nature Project for Ireland (LIFE SNaP Ireland)

> [Project summary](#)

The Prioritised Action Framework (PAF) for Natura 2000 sites in the whole of Ireland highlighted gaps and obstacles in a variety of domains in the management of those sites. LIFE SNaP Ireland addresses these through:

- the creation of an Integrated Data Platform for the implementation of the PAF to enhance conservation data management,
- restoration actions in Irish blanket bog areas, lagoons and other sites, and
- capacity building aimed at improving and expanding the ability to secure funding from the LIFE Programme and from other sources.

These actions will act as catalysts for future implementation of restoration measures and for a structured approach to mainstreaming, coordination and mobilisation of complementary [funding](#).



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### PARTICIPANT in 3 ONGOING PROJECTS

Irish partners are also participating in 3 ongoing LIFE Nature & Biodiversity projects in 3 other EU Member States.

1 FRANCE  
[AGROWISE](#)

2 NETHERLANDS  
[LIFE CIBBRINA](#)

3 SPAIN  
[LIFE INSULAR](#)



### COORDINATOR of 5 ONGOING PROJECTS

#### Examples of ongoing projects in Ireland

**LIFE Lough Carra** seeks to restore the Lough Carra marl lake habitat with the collaboration of local farmers and stakeholders, to benefit both species and habitats.

**LIFE On Machair** works to improve the conservation status of Machairs habitat and the ecological conditions for breeding waders and pollinators in the West and North-West regions of Ireland.

In the same regions, **LIFE Atlantic Crex** addresses the needs for better conservation conditions and a population increase of corncrakes through the enhancement of grassland ecosystems.

**LIFE IP PAF-WILD ATLANTIC NATURE** supports the implementation of the Prioritised Action Framework (PAF) in Ireland by developing a scheme for collaborations between stakeholders to aid the governance of Ireland’s blanket bogs Natura 2000 sites.



## 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 **EU contribution**

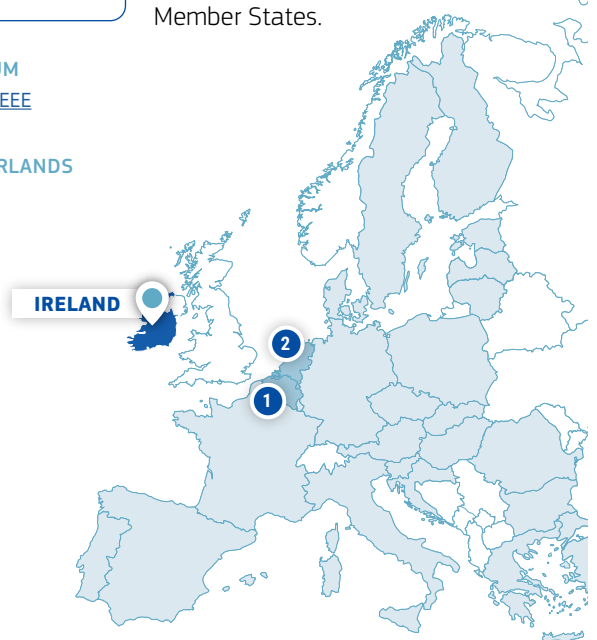
**€43.3 million** **€18.2 million**



**PARTICIPANT**  
in **2 ONGOING PROJECTS**

Irish partners are also participating in 2 ongoing LIFE Circular Economy & Quality of Life projects in 2 other EU Member States.

- 1 BELGIUM  
[LIFE-ECOSWEEE](#)
- 2 NETHERLANDS  
[CIRRCON](#)



### MPA LIFE IRELAND



> [Project summary](#)

Ireland's marine territory is almost 10 times greater than its land territory and features many Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). MPA LIFE IRELAND aims to develop a network of MPAs to achieve Good Environmental Status, with the further objective of extending the network to cover up to 30% of the Irish maritime area by 2030. Participation of government, marine stakeholders and local communities is key in this regard, and the project will build on a participatory ecosystem-based management process that encompasses co-design, co-production and co-delivery of environmental preservation actions and measures.

**COORDINATOR**  
of **5 ONGOING PROJECTS**

### Examples of ongoing projects in Ireland

**Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE** tackles water quality in County Dublin and addresses urban wastewater misconnections by providing an innovative technique for conducting inspections.

**Why2LIFE** valorises whey permeate as a valuable yeast biomass, thus addressing the environmental footprint of cheese production and introducing circular economy principles to the dairy industry.

**PLASTIC2WAXLIFE** seeks to demonstrate an innovative chemical recycling process for the conversion of waste plastics into sustainable wax, thus substituting polyolefin wax production.

Along the same lines, **LIFE REPLAR** aims to boost the use of recycled plastic within the plastic packaging sector by transforming mixed post-consumer waste streams into high-quality low-density polyethylene pellets.

The **Waters of LIFE** is an EU LIFE Integrated Project (IP) which aims to help reverse the deterioration of Ireland's most pristine waters and support the implementation of measures to protect and enhance High-Status Waters and thus to support the work of the Blue Dot Catchments Programme.



## 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](#)

**TOTAL INVESTMENT**  
2023-2024  
**€0 million**



**EU contribution**  
**€0 million**

**PARTICIPANT**  
in **1 ONGOING PROJECT**

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

**1 ITALY**  
[LIFE CLIMATE SMART CHEFS](#)



**LIFE IP Peatlands and People - Irelands Climate Action Catalyst (LIFE IP Peatlands and People)**



> [Project summary](#)

Irish peatlands are located in the Midlands region and encompass raised and blanket bogs, fens and wet and dry

heath. Their potential as carbon sink expresses in full through LIFE IP Peatlands and People, which uses peatlands as a model to inspire behavioural change and build capacity and economy in the region. It aims at kickstarting the long-term implementation of decarbonisation plans in the fields of enterprise, agriculture, forestry and land use, circular economy, public sector and community engagement in the just transition. Concretely, LIFE IP Peatlands and People collaborate locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to generate and share solutions, knowledge and content for a systemic transformation to a carbon neutral future and aims at establishing a Peatlands Centre of Excellence, a Just Transition Accelerator and a People’s Discovery Attraction.



## 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](#)



### Bankable Neighbourhood Portfolios for Energy Renovation (BanPER)



> [Project summary](#)

Energy efficiency in buildings is an important side to the clean energy transition, yet critical financial barriers are impacting on the pace of renovations, which in turn must double by 2030 to fully achieve EU targets. BanPER contributes to accelerating the rollout of energy efficiency renovation for residential homes through the implementation of an innovative neighbourhood-based portfolio approach. This approach envisages a blended finance mechanism using public funding to catalyse incremental private funding. The key processes to be developed by BanPER start at the neighbourhood level, to then address the enabling infrastructure at the city level and lastly at the national level.



COORDINATOR of 7 ONGOING PROJECTS

### Examples of ongoing projects in Ireland

**HOMERENO LEAP** targets the set up of 3 Local Energy Agencies in the northern and western regions of Ireland, to support uptake of integrated home renovation services for peripheral, dispersed and old homes.

**LIFE AUDITS PLUS** seeks to create a multi-stakeholder, multi-actor group at the EU level to help in the implementation of energy efficiency measures in energy intensive industries in the ceramic and pharmaceutical sectors.

**Step WISE** aims to provide local and regional authorities with an inclusive, adaptive and effective support package to implement specific clean energy transition plans.

**TRESS** helps public bodies in Ireland to implement building renovations of public buildings by facilitating collaborations among various actors involved.

Similarly, **EasyPro** is developing a bespoke Energy Performance Contract (EPC) Facilitation Service and procurement framework with the aim of to demonstrating it in 4 implementation sites provided by Irish universities.

**BUSHROSSs** provides skills training to relevant stakeholders for the successful establishment and operation of One Stop Shops to assist homeowners during the entire process of residential building energy refurbishment.



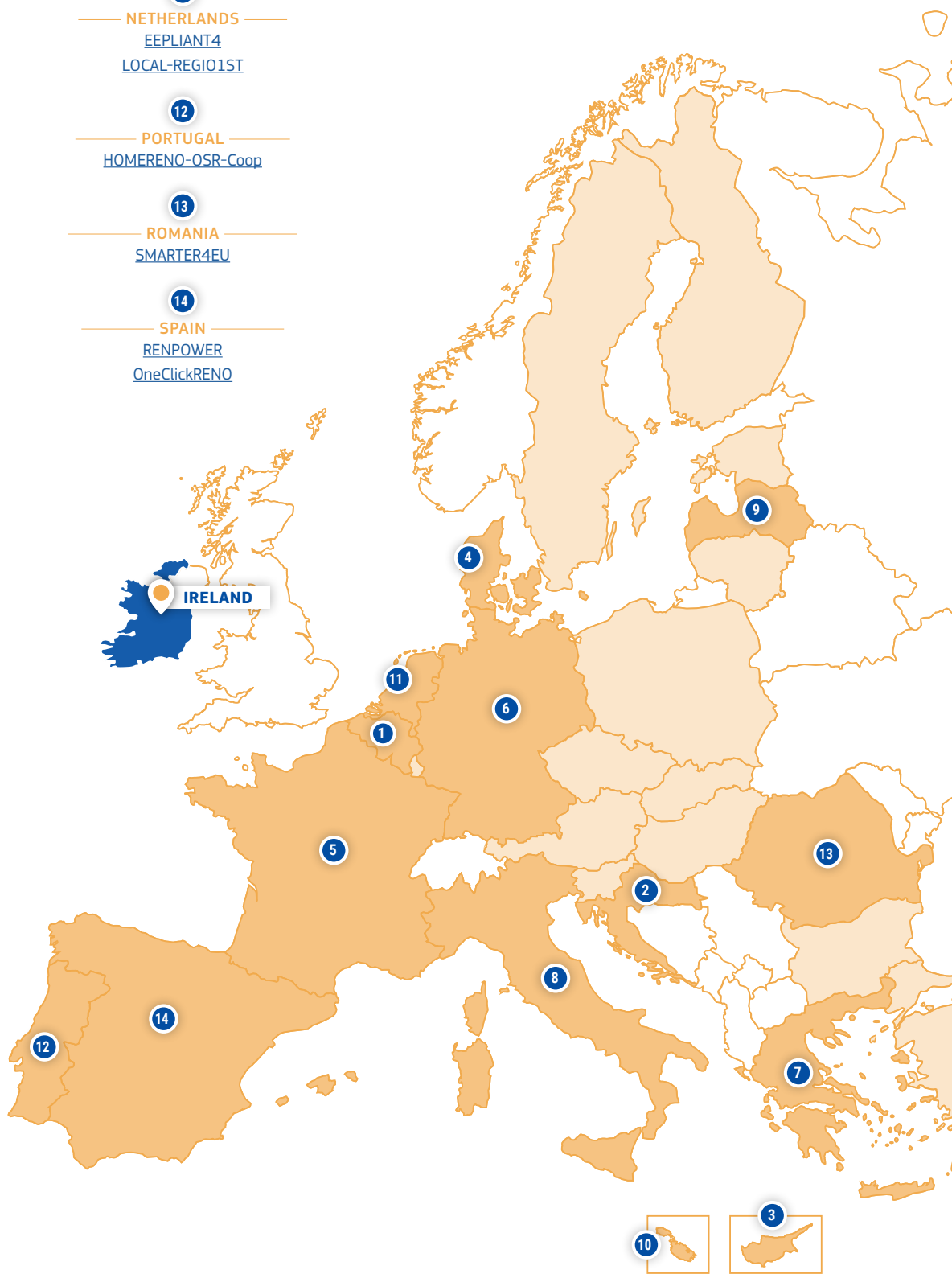
## Participants under the LIFE Clean Energy Transition sub-programme

Irish partners are also participating in 23 ongoing LIFE Clean Energy Transition projects in 14 other EU Member States.

**PARTICIPANT**  
in **23 ONGOING**  
**PROJECTS**

- 1**  
BELGIUM  
GEAR-UP  
ENERCOM FACILITY  
POLICY-GEBOOST
- 2**  
CROATIA  
LOCAL-IN-PLAN
- 3**  
CYPRUS  
SMARTREADY-SMART SQUARE
- 4**  
DENMARK  
CAEPBD6
- 5**  
FRANCE  
LIFE EUCE  
POLICY-OdysseeMure fit-4-55
- 6**  
GERMANY  
Skills4DHC  
POWER-E-COM  
EU Peers
- 7**  
GREECE  
SMARTREADY-easySRI
- 8**  
ITALY  
ENABLE DHC  
DHC SwEEtch  
LEAPto11
- 9**  
LATVIA  
LOCAL-OwnYourSECAP

- 10**  
MALTA  
REEValue
- 11**  
NETHERLANDS  
EEPLIANT4  
LOCAL-REGIO1ST
- 12**  
PORTUGAL  
HOMERENO-OSR-Coop
- 13**  
ROMANIA  
SMARTER4EU
- 14**  
SPAIN  
RENPOWER  
OneClickRENO





## 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

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[@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 LIFE NATURE & BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS COORDINATED BY IRISH BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT SUMMARY	PROJECT DURATION
LIFE Strategic Nature Project for Ireland	LIFE22-IPN-IE-LIFE SNaP Ireland	<a href="#">LIFE SNaP Ireland</a>	01/01/2024 - 31/12/2032
Improving ecosystem resilience & reducing nutrient pollution in Lough Carra, one of Europe's premier SAC marl lakes	LIFE20 NAT/IE/000172-LIFE Lough Carra	<a href="#">LIFE Lough Carra</a>	06/09/2021 - 04/09/2026
Protecting and restoring Ireland's network of machair systems and associated breeding wader and pollinator communities	LIFE20 NAT/IE/000263-LIFE On Machair	<a href="#">LIFE On Machair</a>	01/02/2022 - 31/01/2028
Towards implementing the PAF for Ireland by protecting and restoring Ireland's blanket bog Natura Network along Atlantic seaboard	LIFE18 IPE/IE/000002-LIFE IP PAF-WILD ATLANTIC NATURE	<a href="#">LIFE IP PAF-WILD ATLANTIC NATURE</a>	01/01/2020 - 31/12/2028
Improving Corncrake conservation status in Ireland by the enhancement of the SPA network and surrounding farmland	LIFE18 NAT/IE/000090-LIFE Atlantic Crex	<a href="#">LIFE Atlantic Crex</a>	01/01/2020 - 31/12/2025

#### ONGOING LIFE CIRCULAR ECONOMY & QUALITY OF LIFE PROJECTS COORDINATED BY IRISH BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT SUMMARY	PROJECT DURATION
Demonstration of a innovative recycling process for the production of a high-quality LDPE granulate from comingled and post-consumer waste streams	LIFE23-ENV-IE-LIFE REPLAR	<a href="#">LIFE REPLAR</a>	01/06/2024 - 30/11/2026
MPA-LIFE-IRELAND	LIFE22-IPE-IE-MPA-LIFE-IRE-LAND	<a href="#">MPA-LIFE-IRELAND</a>	01/07/2024 - 30/06/2033
PLASTIC2WAXLIFE: Demonstrating a scalable modular pyrolysis process to give new life to waste plastics while enabling local production of sustainable wax (aka NEWLIFE2PLASTIC)	LIFE21-ENV-IE-PLASTIC2WAX-LIFE	<a href="#">PLASTIC2WAXLIFE</a>	01/08/2022 - 31/12/2025
Extension of whey permeate value chain through industrial symbiosis to produce a valuable non-GMO yeast protein	LIFE18 ENV/IE/000084-Whey-2LIFE	<a href="#">Whey2LIFE</a>	01/07/2019 - 31/12/2024
To demonstrate the effectiveness of stormwater improvement options in urban areas using proven decision making tools	LIFE17 ENV/IE/000281-Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE	<a href="#">Dublin Urban Rivers LIFE</a>	02/07/2018 - 31/03/2025



## ONGOING LIFE CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION PROJECTS COORDINATED BY IRISH BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT SUMMARY	PROJECT DURATION
LIFE IP Peatlands and People - Irelands Climate Action Catalyst	LIFE19 IPC/IE/000007-LIFE IP Peatlands and People	<a href="#">LIFE IP Peatlands and People</a>	01/10/2020 - 30/09/2027

## ONGOING CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION PROJECTS COORDINATED BY IRISH BENEFICIARIES

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT REFERENCE	PROJECT SUMMARY	PROJECT DURATION
Bankable Neighbourhood Portfolios for Energy Renovation	LIFE23-CET-BanPER	<a href="#">BanPER</a>	01/10/2024 - 31/03/2027
Building Up Skills for Home Renovation One-Stop-Shops	LIFE23-CET-BUSHROSSs	<a href="#">BUSHROSSs</a>	01/09/2024 - 31/08/2027
Easy Procurement of Energy Performance Contracts	LIFE23-CET-EasyPro	<a href="#">EasyPro</a>	01/07/2024 - 30/06/2027
Transforming Renovation in the Southern Seaboard Region-Ireland	LIFE22-CET-TRESS	<a href="#">TRESS</a>	01/09/2023 - 31/08/2026
A tailored and dynamic capacity building programme to transform local and regional authorities into autonomous early adopters of digitised, integrated, and ambitious Clean Energy Transition plans	LIFE22-CET-Step-WISE	<a href="#">Step-WISE</a>	01/12/2023 - 31/05/2026
Enhancing energy audits schemes in Energy Intensive Industries with practical approaches	LIFE22-CET-LIFE AUDIT-PLUS	<a href="#">LIFE AUDIT-PLUS</a>	01/10/2023 - 30/09/2026
Local Energy Agencies for Peripheral Regions	LIFE21-CET-HOMERENO-LEAP	<a href="#">HOMERENO-LEAP</a>	01/11/2022 - 30/04/2026

Data extract: 13 September 2024

Source: LIFE on-line public dashboard [QlikSense](#)

Under 'Focus 2023-2024' section covering all sub-programmes, the EU contribution to both project coordinators and participants include projects started between the 1 January 2023 and 31 October 2024.

Last update: 1 January 2025