

Belgium



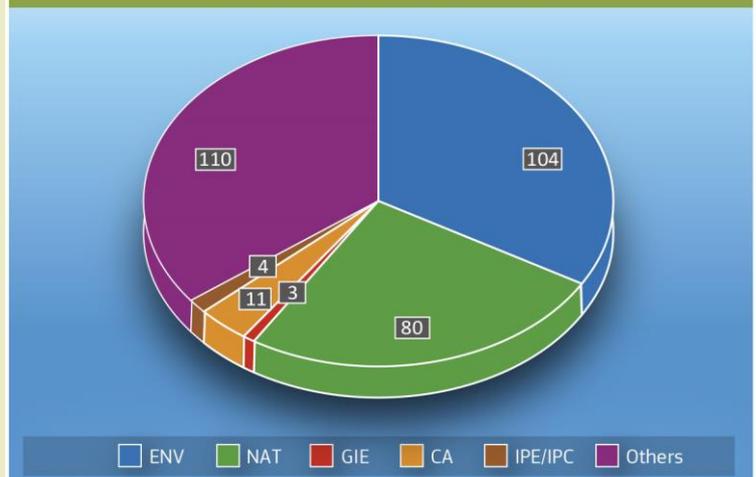
Overview

This document provides an overview of LIFE in Belgium. It showcases key data and some of the latest LIFE projects.

You will also find contact details and other useful resources and a full list of current and recently-finished LIFE projects.

Every year calls for project proposals are launched covering the LIFE programme's priority areas.

312 LIFE projects (since 1992)



Investment in LIFE projects in Belgium (€ million)

	Total investment	EU contribution
ALL LIFE projects	761	351
Environment and Resource Efficiency (ENV)	212	81
Nature and Biodiversity (NAT)	301	165.5
Environmental Governance and Information (GIE)	4	2.2
Climate Action (CA)	33.5	18
Integrated (IPE/IPC)	69	40
Others	141.5	44

ABOUT LIFE

The LIFE programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action. It has been running since 1992 and has co-financed more than 4 500 projects across the EU and in third countries, mobilising over €9 billion and contributing more than €4 billion to the protection of the environment and climate. The budget for the LIFE programme for 2014–2020 is set at €3.4 billion in current prices, with a sub-programme for environment and a sub-programme for climate action.

Types of LIFE project:

- Traditional (Environment and Resource Efficiency; Nature and Biodiversity; Environmental Governance and Information; Climate Change Mitigation; Climate Change Adaptation; Climate Governance and Information).
- Integrated (Environment, Nature or Climate Action)
- Preparatory
- Capacity-building

Other types of LIFE funding:

- NGO operating grants
- Natural Capital Financing Facility (NCF)
- Private Finance for Energy Efficiency (PF4EE)

NCF and PF4EE are joint initiatives with the European Investment Bank, which manages the two funds.

For more information visit: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en

LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency

This LIFE priority area is aimed at developing, testing and demonstrating best practices, solutions and integrated approaches to environmental challenges, as well as improving the related knowledge base.

To date, the LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency strand (formerly the LIFE Environment Policy and Governance component) has co-financed 104 projects in Belgium, representing a total investment of €212 million, of which €81 million has been provided by the EU.

Completed projects were mainly concerned with issues such as: integrated environmental management (green and blue infrastructure in Flanders' grey peri-urban landscapes); wastewater treatment; water supply; groundwater protection and decontamination; diffuse and dispersed sources of pollution; air quality management; construction and demolition waste (e.g. gypsum); eco-design; clean technologies (innovative recycling and upcycling methods in the glass industry); processing of e-waste; coordinating human bio-monitoring on a European scale; public procurement (in the gardening sector); sustainable soil management; environmentally-friendly techniques in the building sector (silicon-based water repellents); cleaner technologies (production of highly-purified polyphosphoric acid); and waste recycling (development of novel marker and, use of biowaste and re-use of spent grains as a raw material for the production of two types of non-alcoholic beverages). The projects were carried out by international enterprises, local authorities, an NGO, SMEs, research institutions and professional organisations. The average durations ranged from 24 to 48 months.

There are six ongoing projects in Belgium. These focus on: climate change mitigation (substitution of fossil fuels in sectors that extensively use combustion processes by biowaste resources, as well as demonstration of zero-emission and low-noise garbage trucks); water quality improvement (increased available water storage capacity by removing metal pollutants from watercourses and floodplains through nature-based remediation); waste recycling (solution for the economic recovery of thermoplastics and by-products) and waste use (innovative technologies to process new streams of former foodstuff into high-quality feed); and risk assessment and human health protection (ecological control of the oak processionary caterpillar).

These projects are being carried out by private enterprises and regional/local authorities. They will have durations of between 36 and 82 months.

The project featured in the box below is a very successful project, nominated for a LIFE Award in 2021.



Innovative design & development of multifunctional green & blue infrastructure in Flanders grey peri-urban landscapes (LIFE-GREEN4GREY) LIFE12 ENV/BE/000212

LIFE-GREEN4GREY created valuable new Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) elements that provided multiple benefits for the environment and local communities in six pilot urban and peri-urban areas of Flanders, Belgium. The approach taken by the project, together with international, national and local networking, communication and advocacy, had by project end already caused a multiplier effect. This convinced local and regional authorities in Belgium and other EU Member States to invest more in creating GBI for the benefit of both people and biodiversity.

The project's success was achieved by working in an integrated way, considering multiple ecosystem services and multi-functional nature-based solutions. New green and blue infrastructure projects and plans were implemented in urban and peri-urban settings by working in a participative way with stakeholders from the very start. The project team engaged and working together with both the private and public sector to create more GBI areas. By creating several GBI elements, the project has achieved very tangible results for the local communities.

The project's objective to transform grey peri-urban zones into green and blue infrastructure involved all relevant stakeholders. This succeeded in realising two major environmental benefits: enhancing biodiversity and climate change adaptation (flood prevention). The GBI will also connect fragmented nature areas. Actions in the different pilot areas included transforming an artificial channel back into a naturalised watercourse, restoring ponds and creating new water storage areas that also enhance biodiversity, improving conditions for European tree frog (*Hyla arborea*) near a housing district, developing a green business district, and creating a community recreation area.

The project represents a model example of how to implement the EU Green Infrastructure Strategy in urban and peri-urban areas. The project also has a high demonstration value because it implements pilot projects to develop multifunctional GBI in fragmented and underdeveloped peri-urban areas. The participative process with local inhabitants and business community is innovative and contributes to public support and sustainability of the project actions.

The project focused on improving a range of ecosystem services and site functions: nature and biodiversity, water retention, water quality improvement, green environments for outdoor activities and as meeting places, health and well-being, green business sites, green living environments, sustainable food production, climate adaptation and environmental education. A key aim, for instance, was climate change adaptation by enhancing ecosystem services such as water retention and the creation of infiltration areas. A socio-economic survey will be conducted after all the measures are implemented, and the results compared to the project's baseline surveys. Expected socio-economic benefits include business environment benefits, improved health and well-being, increased recreational and social benefits, as well as visual landscape and educational benefits. Through the participatory process, the project boosts social cohesion by bringing people together where measures are being implemented.

For further information:
<http://www.green4grey.be>

LIFE Nature and Biodiversity

This LIFE priority area is aimed at developing, testing and demonstrating best practices, solutions and integrated approaches to contribute to the development and implementation of nature and biodiversity policy and legislation, as well as improving the related knowledge base.

To date, the LIFE Nature and Biodiversity component has co-financed 80 projects in Belgium. These represent a total investment of €301 million, of which €165.5 million was contributed by the EU.

The completed projects focused mainly on the restoration, conservation and management of habitats. These included the Ardenne liégeoise region, Uitkerkse polders; the Dommel valley; woods in the Flemish Ardennes; the calcareous habitat types in the region of Lesse and Lomme; the fossil estuary of the Yzer Dunes; the upper Meuse dry grasslands; the minerotrophic mires and heath ecosystems in the Zuiderkempen; peat and wet habitats on the Saint-Hubert Plateau; the lowland mire "Damvallei"; marshes along the river Scheldt; the pond complex of Central-Limburg; the oligo-mesotrophic aquatic habitats in de Kempen; the wetlands in Belgian Lorraine; the salt meadows in the Flemish polders; the valleys and turf moors of Croix Scaille and the Tailles Plateau; heathland in various areas; bird habitats in Abeek; the bocage landscapes of the Fagne and Famenne; forests in the Most-Keiheuvel; Zwin tidal area; the Bosbeek, Itterbeek and Kleine Nete valleys; grassland in the Vochtig Haspengouw areas; grasslands in the east coast polders; and alluvial forests and creeks within the flood-controlled Scheldt estuary site Kruikebeke-Bazel-Rupelmonde. One project specifically worked on the protection of natural habitats for critically endangered species in the Sonian forest. Another developed innovative techniques for the creation and maintenance of forest corridors for overhead power lines, in order to maximise their potential benefits for biodiversity. The projects also aimed to protect certain species (the pearl mussel, the corncrake, endangered bat species in Flanders, and threatened butterflies in Wallonia). NGOs constituted by far (more than 80%) the largest category of beneficiaries. The remaining projects were carried out by regional, local and park authorities, as well as a professional organisation. The projects' average durations were between 36 and 60 months.

There are 14 ongoing LIFE+ Nature projects in Belgium. These aim to restore habitats (the bocage landscapes of the Fagne and Famenne; grasslands and meadows in Southern Lorraine, Ardenne; Hageland's mosaic of habitats; coastal dunes between Dunkirk in France and Westende in Belgium; Grote NeteWoud and Demer valley; grassland and forest habitats; and degraded habitats, including dune grasslands, dry, and wet heaths and freshwater habitats in the Grenspark De Zoom Kalmthoutse Heide. One project is focused on the connectivity of the Natura 2000 network across the Belgian-Dutch borders in the Meuse basin. Some projects are developing biodiversity in active quarries; recreating and restoring semi-natural heathland and grassland habitats in Eastern Ardennes; creating a fish migration way along the Meuse river; and connecting habitat conservation with long-term biomass management in Flanders (Belgium) and Poland. Other projects aim at the conservation of species, namely *Nardus* and *Limosa* in the Kempen (across the Belgium-Netherlands border); and at the control of aquatic invasive fauna, with a pilot project on the American bullfrog. One project specifically focuses on an innovative evidence-based workflow for decision-making on invasive alien species (IAS management). The majority of ongoing projects are being carried out by NGOs and regional authorities. Other types of beneficiaries are professional organisations (Fédération des Industries Extractives), a large enterprise (EDF Luminus), a university and a park. The project durations vary from 54 to 96 months.

The results presented in the box below are for a successful LIFE Nature and Biodiversity project in Belgium.



Habitat Restoration of alluvial forests and creeks within the flood controlled Scheldt estuary site Kruikebeke-Bazel-Rupelmonde (LIFE+SCALLUVIA) LIFE12 NAT/BE/000596

The LIFE+SCALLUVIA project successfully met all its objectives, with many stakeholders collaborating to efficiently combine nature conservation, flood protection and recreation in an area of the Kruikebeke-Bazel-Rupelmonde in Flanders, Belgium.

The project team increased the area of alluvial forests, specifically 'Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior*' from 37.9 ha to 40.3 ha. This area is expected to reach 69 ha within the next few years. The 'favourable' conservation status of the alluvial forests habitat increased from 3.9 ha to 6.8 ha after only two years of managing the water level and is expected to grow further. The project also restored creeks, in particular increasing the surface area of the habitat 'Natural eutrophic lakes with *Magnopotamion* or *Hydrocharition*-type vegetation'. This habitat was previously not present at the project site, but reached 9.7 ha and is expected to reach 11 ha in the future.

Habitat restoration enabled the re-establishment of species listed in the annexes of the Habitats Directive. Healthy populations were observed for European bitterling, bluethroat and common kingfisher. Little bittern, European beaver and European otter are breeding at the project site; purple heron is using the site as a resting area; European pine marten has been spotted; and the spined loach has been reintroduced.

The project team designed and implemented a fish-passable weir to promote fish migration. Eight fish species were observed passing through this weir. Furthermore, the numerous catches of the 'trachurus' monotype of the three-spined stickleback indicated an influx of fish from the Scheldt river to the new flooding area. This was further corroborated by the presence of twaite shad and European flounder downstream of the weir.

Recreational infrastructure was installed, based on the accessibility plan, to make the area more attractive to visitors, including a 'Landart' walking route and a 'time capsule' activity. The infrastructure was compatible with conservation goals and helped keep visitors away from sensitive nature areas. Local support has evolved into co-ownership with entrepreneurs focusing on visitors; an active group of volunteers who conduct nature education, numerous guided walks and monitoring of project actions; and the support of the municipality. The project demonstrated the important role that volunteers can play in LIFE projects and how this enables capacity building for nature conservation. The project team developed '10 keys to project co-ownership', which could be used in many other projects. The integration of nature, tourism and forest management plan provides robust grounds for the sustainability of the project's results.

The project has important economic benefits in terms of climate change adaptation. By creating increased water buffering capacity in the area, the project offers flood protection to the urbanised area, thus preventing potentially huge economic damage and human suffering due to floods. In addition, habitat restoration and enhanced recreational opportunities are beneficial for human health and wellbeing. For example, many people commute through the site to school or work by bicycle or on foot. The socio-economic study showed that restaurants and cafés had more visitors, and this may benefit B&Bs in the Kruikebeke municipality. The project also brought many local people together who have different interests (e.g. nature conservationists, artists, anglers), as well as different generations, so was beneficial for increasing social cohesion.

For further information:
<http://scalluvia.eu>

LIFE Environmental Governance and Information

This priority area is aimed at raising awareness of environmental matters, supporting the communication, management and dissemination of environmental information, and promoting better environmental governance by broadening stakeholder involvement.

To date, this strand (formerly the LIFE+ Information and Communication component) has co-financed three projects in Belgium. This represents a total investment of €4 million, of which €2 million was provided by the EU.

The AlterIAS project, whose objective was to reduce the introduction of invasive alien plants (IAPs) by raising awareness about the environmental risks along the whole ornamental horticulture supply chain in Belgium, from growers to gardeners, closed at the end of 2013. The total investment was €1 million, of which the EU contributed 50%. The project was carried out by the Laboratory of Ecology of Gembloux Agronomic Faculty.

The Life EWWR+ project, which has been building on the previous European Week for Waste Reduction (2009-2011), developed communication tools and events to reduce waste, reuse products and recycle materials (the '3Rs'). The project was implemented by a regional authority (ACR+) and finished mid-2017 (see project box below).

There is currently one ongoing project under this strand. The LIFE SWEAP project targets an increase in the number of members taking part in IMPEL's (European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law) 'enforcement actions' to better detect, disrupt and prevent illegal waste trafficking.



European Week for Waste Reduction (Life EWWR+) LIFE12 INF/BE/000459

The Life EWWR+ project team organised events in 27 EU Member States that reached many people, increasing and reinforcing their awareness of how to prevent waste, and to prepare it for reuse and recycling.

As a focus for their activities, the project team firstly developed an attractive and user-friendly website. From here, project documents, tools and training materials can be downloaded for free. The project's numerous communication products included toolkits, panels, information boards, and videos.

The key outcome was the annual European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR), organised for the four years of the project's duration, with all its associated events. These included European Clean Up Day (ECUD), with well-publicised litter collection activities ("Let's Clean Up Europe"), and four associated Prevention Thematic Days (PTDs). The PTDs were on reuse (2013), stop food waste (2014), dematerialisation (2015), and packaging waste reduction (2016). The PTDs were all accompanied by factsheets and posters, translated into all 7 languages of the project partners. Further project documents addressed hazardous waste and other issues.

All the project activities were implemented through the involvement of 57 EWWR coordinators, who were trained via a series of project training days and through online training sessions (webinars). There were at least one EWWR edition in 27 EU countries, and also at least one in 16 non-EU countries. The project was involved in the implementation of a total of 48 965 actions. Of these actions, 24 went on to receive awards. Participants in the EWWR were able to reduce their waste by 37% more than the expected reduction of yearly waste by European citizens, to reach a level of 26 kg of recycling materials per year (an increase of 19%). A total of 7 811 tonnes of litter were collected during ECUDs (976 010 participants and 7 125 actions), while 9 120 tonnes of waste were prevented during the PTDs.

The raised awareness about waste prevention, reuse and recycling had positive environmental benefits for the environment in the EU and beyond. Key to the success of the project was reaching out to different audiences, by creating dedicated communication tools on specific topics. The large amounts of litter collected also had direct environmental benefits.

The project helped introduce the '3Rs' concept to countries that were not so advanced in their waste reduction, reuse and recycling activities. Extending the EWWR to other countries, even outside the initial geographic scope, was considered a real success and demonstrates the possibility of developing such initiatives in other parts of the world.

In terms of socio-economic impact, finding solutions and targeted communication activities with companies, schools, NGOs and public authorities, can reduce their waste production and also help them save money, with possible knock-on effects for the economy and job creation.

Thanks to the groundwork established by the project, the EWWR is continuing beyond the LIFE funding (e.g. 17-25 November 2018). Since July 2017, it has been led by the EWWR Steering Committee (www.ewwr.eu), which includes the LIFE project beneficiary together with an expanded number of organisations.

For further information:
<http://www.ewwr.eu>

Sub-programme for Climate Action (LIFE 2014-2020)

LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and LIFE Climate Change Adaptation

The Climate Change Mitigation priority area is helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, notably by contributing to the implementation and development of related policy and legislation, improving the knowledge base, developing integrated approaches, and developing and demonstrating innovative technologies, systems, methods and instruments.

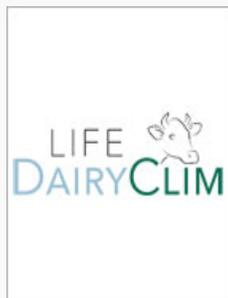
To date, the Climate Change Mitigation strand has financed eight projects in Belgium. Three of them are closed. "LIFE-Dairyclim" contributed to the mitigation of climate impacts and to decreasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in dairy farming. Its results are presented in the project box below. LIFE DRB, whose objective was to reduce GHG emissions from a steelmaking industry plant, finished without achieving the expected results; and LIFE Beverage, which aimed to reduce GHG emissions caused by beverage production in Belgium and the UK, concluded with partial results only.

There are five ongoing projects. LIFE FRONT aims to remove obstacles to the standardisation of flammable refrigerants used in refrigeration, air conditioning and heat pump applications. LIFE BIPV (which is now coordinated by a Spanish COMSA Corporation), aims to demonstrate innovative BIPV (Building Integrated PhotoVoltaics) installations in buildings located in two EU regions with different climatic characteristics. LIFE_SF6-FREE aims to demonstrate, validate and roll-out climate-friendly alternatives for SF6 in particle accelerators. NATURAL HVACR 4 LIFE aims to demonstrate innovative, integrated Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (HVACR) installations with a natural refrigerant. Life SMART aims to develop an innovative and cost-effective solution that integrates renewable energies into the steel manufacturing process.

The total investment for these projects amounts to €21.5 million, of which the EU will provide €13.5 million. The projects will, respectively, be carried out by large companies and one university (Liège). They will have durations of 28 to 60 months.

The Climate Change Adaptation priority area is supporting efforts to increase resilience to climate change, in particular by contributing to the implementation and development of related policy and legislation, improving the knowledge base, developing integrated approaches, and developing and demonstrating innovative technologies, systems, methods and instruments.

To date, the Climate Change Adaptation strand has financed one project in Belgium. The LIFE SPARC project proposes measures to make the Scheldt estuary and its highly urbanised area resilient to climate change. This project represents a total budget of €8.5 million, of which the EU will contribute €2.5 million. The project is coordinated by the NGO Agentschap voor Natuur en Bos.



Feeding strategies to decrease methane emissions and carbon footprint of dairy cows in Belgium, Luxembourg and Denmark (LIFE-Dairyclim) LIFE14 CCM/BE/001187

LIFE-Dairyclim provided climate change mitigation strategies, highlighting the importance of grasslands conservation, and producing reports and other publications about its results. Through its achievements, the project demonstrated a significant impact on the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the LULUCF (land use, land-use change, and forestry) sector. This will provide recommendations to the agriculture sector to comply with the EU Effort Sharing Regulation including the agricultural sector.

The project partners conducted two surveys on grasslands. These surveys helped describe the grazing practices in the participating countries, showing high discrepancies between countries with low percentage of dairy farms practising grazing in Denmark (37%) while it is a key practice in Wallonia (96.5%). The second survey showed a decrease of this practice in Luxembourg (from 84.4% in 2016 to 60.5% of grazing lactating cows in 2019). It demonstrated also that food labels and premium prices were an important incentive to continue grazing. On the other hand, farmers cited the difficult management of climatic issues as reason to stop grazing in 45.5% of answers in 2019 vs 22.9% in 2016; most likely due to prolonged droughts observed in 2018. The summary report of the surveys was sent to policymakers to raise awareness about grassland preservation. A second objective of the project was to describe best feeding strategies susceptible to decrease methane emissions. Therefore, the project consortium tested various innovative feeding and grazing strategies for dairy cows, in order to select the most efficient ones in terms of GHG emissions reduction with minimum or positive socio-economic impacts. Best practices were then demonstrated on pilot farms.

The project successfully defined best feeding strategies and precision grazing techniques, based on the results of farm trials. These were proved to have the potential of significantly reducing the GHG emissions of the dairy sector. Afterwards, the results were validated in pilot farms in Luxembourg, Denmark and Belgium. Regarding best feeding strategies, a decrease of 10-11% methane (CH₄) emissions per kg of milk was achieved by use of concentrate rich in extruded linseed (Nutex) without negative zootechnical impact. Precision grazing techniques reduced feeding costs by 20% by reducing complementation with concentrates. Moreover, improved grazing methods allowed an increase in grassland carbon sequestration by 11%. Finally, biodiversity was also enhanced by more sustainable grassland management. Lifecycle assessment allowed to assess the global environmental impact of these practices.

The main climate-related benefit is the demonstration of a 10% reduction in GHG (mainly methane) emissions in dairy cow production. Another environmental benefit is the conservation of permanent grasslands.

For further information:
<http://labos.ulg.ac.be/dairyclim/en/>

LIFE Climate Governance and Information

The Climate Governance and Information priority area is promoting awareness-raising on climate matters, supporting the communication, management and dissemination of climate information, promoting more effective compliance with climate legislation, and encouraging better climate governance by broadening stakeholder involvement.

To date, the Climate Governance and Information strand has co-financed two projects in Belgium. LIFE MaxiMiseR is closed (see its detailed results in the project box below) and aimed to enhance the capacity of European institutions and governments to improve their development and implementation of Low Carbon Development Strategies. The LIFE UNIFY project is aiming to bring the EU together on climate action.

These projects represent a total investment of €3.5 million, of which the EU will contribute €2 million. The projects are being coordinated by NGOs and will run for periods ranging between 30 and 48 months.



Ticking boxes, or marking success? - Maximising the potential of the EU's Monitoring Mechanism Regulation for LIFE (LIFE MaxiMiseR) **LIFE14 GIC/BE/000590**

LIFE MaxiMiseR made a very valuable contribution to the enabling environment around 2050 planning at the EU level. The project showed evidence of collaboration, mobilisation, increased awareness and knowledge-sharing among relevant stakeholders (EU Member State Permanent Representations, the European Environment Agency, European Commission DG Clima), European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), Climate Action Network (CAN), and civil society organisations (e.g. think tanks, industrial enterprises).

The project developed an online Low Carbon Development Strategies (LCDS) evaluation tool and a guidance document - sharing best practices and lessons learned with EU and non-EU stakeholders - through the qualitative assessment of each EU Member State's LCDS of 2015 and 2017, so as to support better low-carbon development strategies. In addition, the project team organised webinars and round tables to reach its target audiences with the aim to strengthen Member States in the development of their long-term vision and strategies. The impact of these actions will be seen in future iterations of LCDS.

LIFE MaxiMiseR has influenced EU ETS (Emissions Trading System) legislation to the extent that the European Parliament's position aligned with the project's recommendations (earmarking of auctioning revenues for climate and take-out rate of emission allowances into the Market Stability Reserve). The advocacy about the Energy Union Governance regulation focused on net zero emissions by 2050, delivering 2050 and 2030 plans at the same time, and providing a template for long-term strategies.

For further information:
<http://www.maximiser.eu>

LIFE Integrated Projects for the Environment and Climate

This LIFE priority area is aimed at implementing on a large territorial scale (regional, multi-regional, national, trans-national) environmental or climate plans or strategies required by specific EU environmental or climate legislation, primarily in the areas of nature, water, waste, air and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Integrated Projects ensure the involvement of stakeholders and promote the coordination with and mobilisation of at least one other relevant EU, national or private funding source.

To date, four Integrated Projects have been co-financed in Belgium: three for the Environment and one for Climate.

The Belgian Nature Integrated Project (BNIP), coordinated by the NGO Agentschap voor Natuur en Bos, will develop and manage the operational planning for the implementation of the Flemish and Walloon region's Prioritised Action Frameworks for Natura 2000 (PAFs), and the execution of the Natura 2000 objectives of the Flemish, Walloon and federal governments (see box below). The IP Belini project, implemented by regional authority Vlaamse Milieumaatschappij, will focus on a well-designated part of the Scheldt international river basin district that is representative of the whole district – i.e. the catchment area of three Belgian tributaries of the main river Scheldt: the Zenne, the Dyle and the Demer. The LIFE-IP C-MARTLIFE project, implemented by Openbare Vlaamse Afvalstoffenmaatschappij, will implement the Flemish Waste Management policy, with a specific focus on accelerating and reinforcing the Plastics Action Plan. In addition, it aims as well at expanding its actions over the entire Belgian territory through inter-regional and national partners.

The objective of LIFE IP BE REEL! is to create the conditions for the full implementation of the strategic housing renovation plans of the Flanders and Wallonia regions in Belgium. This project is coordinated by the Vlaams Energieagentschap, Vlaamse Overheid (VEA).

These projects represent a total budget of €69 million, of which the EU will contribute €40 million. Their duration varies between 84 to 123 months.



BNIP

Belgian Nature Integrated Project (BNIP) LIFE14 IPE/BE/000002

The Belgian Nature Integrated Project (BNIP) will develop and manage the operational planning for the implementation of the Flemish and Walloon regions' Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs) and the execution of the Natura 2000 objectives of the Flemish, Walloon and federal governments. The objective of the integrated project is not to achieve all the objectives of the PAFs, but to contribute to their implementation by developing tools and expertise, enhancing involvement of administrations, strengthening participation and empowering stakeholders. The idea is that these outcomes for pilot restoration practices and management can be replicated in other Natura 2000 sites.

In addition to sites in the Flemish and Walloon regions, the project will realise the targets identified in the federal marine PAF and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive for achieving favourable conservation status of species and habitats.

The overall thematic objectives are: to establish a Natura 2000 programme structure and management; to develop habitats and species action plans and site management plans; to build up capacity through expertise with relevant approaches and tools; to implement communication tools to increase involvement among stakeholders; to create technical instruments and tools, such as databases; to initiate projects for a subset of action and management plans; and to carry out the biological monitoring and socio-economic surveys that lead to a better knowledge of habitats and species, and ecosystem functioning and services.

For further information:
<http://www.life-bnip.be/>

Find out more about LIFE and LIFE projects

LIFE website

The LIFE website provides a wealth of information on the LIFE programme:

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en



LIFE project database

For further information on LIFE projects in Belgium or LIFE projects in general, please consult the online LIFE projects' database:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/search>

This easy-to-use database is the authoritative source of information on all ongoing and completed LIFE projects. It also provides information on the beneficiaries, their contact details, and the projects' websites.



Social media



twitter.com/LIFE_Programme



<http://www.facebook.com/LIFE.programme>

Contact

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Recently closed and ongoing LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Website	Click on the icon to read the project summary	Project duration
Validation of an environmentally friendly system, combining CO2 capture and biofuel production based on algae culture for industrial exhaust application (AGICAL+)	LIFE10 ENV/BE/000696	http://www.agical.eu/		01/2011 -> 09/2016
Sustainable and integrated soil management to reduce environmental effects (DEMETER)	LIFE10 ENV/BE/000699	http://www.demeterlife.eu		01/2012 -> 03/2016
GtoG: From Production to Recycling, a Circular Economy for the European Gypsum Industry with the Demolition and Recycling Industry”(GtoG)	LIFE11 ENV/BE/001039	http://gypsumtogypsum.org/		01/2013 -> 01/2016
Improving sustainability of construction materials using innovative Silicon based treatment (SILEX)	LIFE11 ENV/BE/001046	http://www2.dowcorning.com/content/construction/landing/lifeplus.aspx		06/2012 -> 05/2016
Production of Polyphosphoric Acid using an innovative system based on the phosphoric acid wet process (LIFE Polyphos Acid)	LIFE12 ENV/BE/000205	http://www.prayon.com/fr/nos-activites/innovations/life-polyphos-acid.php		07/2013 -> 03/2016
Demonstration of an innovative fine crushing method for glass and alternative cullet in flat glass production (LIFE FLAT to FLAT)	LIFE12 ENV/BE/000214	http://www.agc-flattoflat.eu/index.htm		07/2013 -> 12/2017
Innovative design & development of multifunctional green & blue infrastructure in Flanders grey peri-urban landscapes (LIFE-GREEN4GREY)	LIFE13 ENV/BE/000212	http://www.green4grey.be/		07/2014 -> 06/2019
Biomass gasification for CO2 emissions reduction and valorization of bio-wastes in energy-intensive industrial processes (LIFE OxyUp)	LIFE13 ENV/BE/000517	http://xylowatt.com/life-oxyup		06/2014 -> 10/2018
Liquidation of Full Emission and Noise levels while GARBage collection with Hydrogen! (LIFE 'N GRAB HY!)	LIFE14 ENV/BE/000415	http://www.lifeandgrabhy.eu		09/2015 -> 09/2019
Production of fully recyclable and reusable green composites based on bioresins and natural fibres (LIFE RECYSITE)	LIFE15 ENV/BE/000204	http://recysite.eu		07/2016 ->06/2019
REFRESHMENT - Pilot for environmentally Friendly, Efficient, Sustainable and Healthy products development (LIFE REFRESHMENT)	LIFE15 ENV/BE/000267	http://www.ab-inbev.eu/refreshment.html		07/2016 ->12/2018
Nature-based Remediation of Metal pollutants in Nature Areas to increase water	LIFE18 ENV/BE/000286	https://www.ovamenglish.be/life-narmena-0		07/2019 ->08/2025

storage capacity NARMENA (LIFE NARMENA)				
Recycling of high-quality secondary thermoplastics and critical raw materials coming from mixed WEEE and EoL vehicles (Life PlasPLUS)	LIFE18 ENV/BE/000368	https://www.lifeplasplus.eu/		07/2019 → 12/2022
Ecological control of the oak processionary caterpillar (Thaumetopoea processionea) as a non-chemical solution (LIFE oak processionary)	LIFE19 ENV/BE/000102	https://eikenprocessierups.life/		09/2020 → 08/2025
Demonstration of innovative technologies to process new streams of Former Foodstuff into high quality Feed (LIFE F3)	LIFE19 ENV/BE/000244	N/A		09/2020 → 08/2023

Recently closed and ongoing LIFE Nature & Biodiversity projects

Project Title	Project Number	Website	Click on the icon to read the project summary	Project duration
Restoration of natural habitats in the « Ardenne liégeoise » region (Ardenne liégeoise)	LIFE10 NAT/BE/000706	http://biodiversite.wallonie.be/fr/life-ardenne-liegeoise-2012-2018.html?IDC=3590		01/2012 → 12/2018
Development of the beddings of the electricity transportation network as means of enhancing biodiversity (ELIA)	LIFE10 NAT/BE/000709	http://www.life-elia.eu/		09/2011 → 08/2016
Conservation of habitats and species of bocage landscapes of the Fagne and Famenne (Bocages)	LIFE11 NAT/BE/001059	http://www.lifeprairiesbocageres.eu/		07/2012 → 06/2019
Priority actions for grasslands and meadows in Southern Lorraine and the Ardenne (Herbages)	LIFE11 NAT/BE/001060	http://www.life-herbages.eu		01/2012 → 12/2019
Nature restoration Most-Keiheuvel (Most-Keiheuvel)	LIFE11 NAT/BE/001061	http://www.natuurenbos.be/nl-BE/Over-ons/Projecten/Keiheuvel-De-Most.aspx		06/2012 → 05/2017
Habitat restoration HAGELAND (Life Hageland)	LIFE11 NAT/BE/001067	http://www.life-hageland.be		09/2012 → 08/2018
Large-scale restoration of a complex of ground- and seepage water dependent habitats (Vochtig Haspengouw)	LIFE11 NAT/BE/001068	http://www.life-vochtighaspengouw.be		09/2012 → 08/2018
Restoration of natural habitats for critically endangered species by defragmentation of the Sonian Forest (Life OZON)	LIFE12 NAT/BE/000166	http://www.sonianforest.be/lifeozon/		07/2013 → 06/2017
Grassland restoration in the East Coast polders (LIFE Oostkustpolders)	LIFE12 NAT/BE/000252	https://www.natuurpunt.be/pagina/leiding-life-oostkustpolders		07/2013 → 06/2018
Grote NeteWoud: wilderness on a human scale (LIFE Grote NeteWoud)	LIFE12 NAT/BE/000438	http://www.natuurpunt.be/nl/life-grote-netewoud_3364.aspx		09/2013 → 08/2019
Habitat Restoration of alluvial forests and creeks within the flood controlled Scheldt	LIFE12 NAT/BE/000596	http://scalluvia.eu		09/2013 → 09/2017

estuary site Kruikebe-Bazel-Rupelmonde (LIFE+SCALLUVIA)				
Flemish And North-French Dunes Restoration (Life FLANDRE)	LIFE12 NAT/BE/000631	http://www.lifeflandre.be		09/2013 → 09/2018
To get heath restored (Life Together)	LIFE12 NAT/BE/001098	http://www.togetherfornature.be/		10/2013 → 09/2017
Cross-Border heath restoration, inland dunes and pools, integrated invasive plant management (HELVEX-LIFE)	LIFE13 NAT/BE/000074	http://www.grensparkzkn/helvex-life-project-2014-2019		07/2014 → 06/2019
Connectivity of the Natura 2000 network across the Belgian-Dutch borders in the Meuse basin (LIFE Pays Mosan)	LIFE13 NAT/BE/001067	http://www.lifepaysmosan.eu		07/2014 → 06/2020
LIFE IN QUARRIES (LIFE IN QUARRIES)	LIFE14 NAT/BE/000364	http://www.lifeinquarries.eu		10/2015 → 09/2020
Action Plan for the Improvement of Habitats of Threatened European Species in the Demer Valley through Broad Cooperation (LIFE Delta)	LIFE15 NAT/BE/000760	https://www.natuurpunt.be/pagina/life-delta		09/2016 → 08/2022
Restoration and conservation of semi-natural and natural habitats in eastern Ardennes (Belgium) (LIFE NARD-US)	LIFE15 NAT/BE/000774	http://www.life-nardus.eu		07/2016 → 06/2023
Downstream fish migration along the low Meuse River (LIFE4FISH)	LIFE16 NAT/BE/000807	https://edfluminus.edf.com/en/edf-luminus/our-activities/produce-energy/hydroelectricity/life4fish/innovation-at-the-service-of-wildlife		10/2017 → 03/2022
Green valleys: connecting habitats' conservation with long term biomass management and multi-stakeholder approach (LIFE Green valleys)	LIFE17 NAT/BE/000445	https://www.natuurpunt.be/pagina/leiding-life-green-valleys		09/2018 → 08/2025
Life Nardus & Limosa, large scale restoration of Nardus grasslands & conservation of meadow birds in De Kempen (BE-NL) (LIFE Nardus & Limosa)	LIFE18 NAT/BE/000576	https://www.natuurpunt.be/pagina/oeinstellingen-life-nardus-limosa		07/2019 → 11/2025
The sterile triploid method for population control of aquatic invasive fauna: pilot project on American bullfrog (LIFE 3n-Bullfrog)	LIFE18 NAT/BE/001016	https://www.natuurenbos.be/stierkikker		10/2019 → 03/2025
Ecological restoration of rivers and forests in the deep valleys of Ourthe, Amblève, Vesdre and Our basins (LIFE VALLEES ARDENNAISES)	LIFE19 NAT/BE/000054	http://biodiversite.wallonie.be/fr/life-vallees-ardennaises.html?IDC=6290		09/2020 → 09/2028
Priority actions for grasslands, forests and associated species connexions in Wallonia (BE) and Great East region (FR) (LIFE Connexions)	LIFE19 NAT/BE/000093	https://www.life-connexions.eu/		09/2020 → 09/2028
Reaching Integrated and Prompt Action in Response to	LIFE19 NAT/BE/000953	N/A		01/2021 → 12/2026

Invasive Alien Species (LIFE RIPARIAS)				
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Recently closed and ongoing LIFE Environmental Governance and Information projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Website	Click on the icon to read the project summary	Project duration
European Week for Waste Reduction (Life EWRW+)	LIFE12 INF/BE/000459	http://www.ewwr.eu/		07/2013 → 06/2017
Shipments of Waste Enforcement Actions Project (LIFE SWEAP)	LIFE17 GIE/BE/000480	https://www.sweap.eu/		07/2018 → 06/2023

Ongoing LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and LIFE Climate Adaptation projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Website	Click on the icon to read the project summary	Project duration
Feeding strategies to decrease methane emissions and carbon footprint of dairy cows in Belgium, Luxembourg and Denmark (LIFE-Dairyclim)	LIFE14 CCM/BE/001187	http://labos.ulq.ac.be/dairyclim/en/		10/2015 → 09/2019
BEVERAGE - Brewing Energy saving pilot for an innovative, Efficient, and environmental beverage process (LIFE BEVERAGE)	LIFE15 CCM/BE/000090	http://www.ab-inbev.eu/beverage.html		07/2016 → 06/2018
Flammable Refrigerant Options for Natural Technologies – Improved standards & product design for their safe use (FRONT) (IFE FRONT)	LIFE16 CCM/BE/000054	http://lifefront.eu/		06/2017 → 06/2020
Demonstration of an innovative Building Integrated PhotoVoltaic system toward net-zero-energy buildings (LIFE BIPV)	LIFE16 CCM/BE/000120	http://www.agc-bipvlife.com/		07/2017 → 06/2020
Demonstration and validation of two economic viable climate-friendly alternatives for SF6 FREE high-voltage applications (LIFE_SF6-FREE)	LIFE17 CCM/BE/000113	http://www.iba-dynamitron-lifesf6free.com/		07/2018 → 11/2020
Replacing F-gas: demonstration of innovative, integrated HVACR installations with natural refrigerant (NATURAL HVACR 4 LIFE)	LIFE18 CCM/BE/001182	https://www.naturalhvacr4life.eu		06/2019 → 06/2022
New torrefaction technologies applied to CO ₂ abatement: integrating waste biomass into the steelmaking process (Life SMART)	LIFE19 CCM/BE/001215	N/A		06/2020 → 05/2023
Space for Adapting the River Scheldt to Climate Change (LIFE SPARC)	LIFE16 CCA/BE/000107	https://www.natuurenbos.be/sparc		09/2017 → 08/2022

Ongoing LIFE Climate Governance and Information projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Website	Click on the icon to read the project summary	Project duration
Ticking boxes, or marking success? - Maximising the potential of the EU's Monitoring Mechanism Regulation for LIFE (LIFE MaxiMiser)	LIFE14 GIC/BE/000590	http://www.maximiser.eu/		01/2016 -> 07/2018
Bringing the EU together on climate action (LIFE UNIFY)	LIFE18 GIC/BE/001190	https://unify.caneurope.org/		09/2019 -> 08/2022

Ongoing LIFE Integrated Projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Website	Click on the icon to read the project summary	Project duration
Belgian Nature Integrated Project (LIFE BNIP)	LIFE14 IPE/BE/000002	http://www.life-bnip.be/		01/2015 -> 12/2023
Belgian Initiative for making a leap forward towards good status in the river basin of the Scheldt (Belini)	LIFE15 IPE/BE/000014	http://www.life-belini.be/index-en.php		01/2015 -> 12/2023
Belgium Renovates for Energy Efficient Living (LIFE IP BE REEL!)	LIFE16 IPC/BE/000005	http://www.be-reel.be		01/2015 -> 12/2023
Circular Material Approach on Residual waste Targets and a Litter Free Environment (LIFE-IP C-MARTLIFE)	LIFE19 IPE/BE/000008	N/A		04/2020 -> 12/2027