

LIFE Programme in Poland



Facts and figures

The LIFE Programme has funded 102 projects in Poland over 85 coordinating beneficiaries with total project costs of €305m, of which the EU contributed €166m.

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) (*)

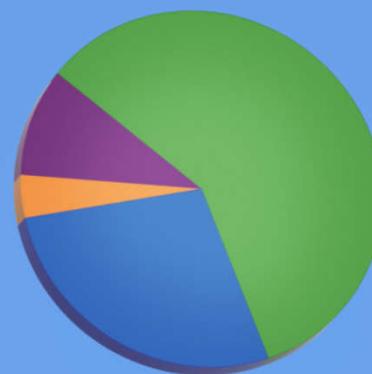
For more information:

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

'The future is green. The future is LIFE' leaflet

Past and closed projects are designated in this document with the new LIFE programme 2021-2027 nomenclature

102 LIFE PROJECTS (SINCE 1992)



Category	Nr of projects
Nature & Biodiversity	60
Circular Economy & Quality of Life	28
Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation	10
Others - NGOs, Preparatory, Technical Assistance	4
Clean Energy Transition (*)	0

INVESTMENT IN LIFE PROJECTS IN POLAND (€ million)

	TOTAL INVESTMENT	EU CONTRIBUTION
ALL LIFE projects	305	166
Nature & Biodiversity	168	92.5
Circular Economy & Quality of Life	96.5	50
Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation	39.5	22.5
Others - NGOs, Preparatory, Technical Assistance	1.0	0.8



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 60 projects in Poland. These represent a total investment of €168 million, of which €92.5 million has been contributed by the EU.

The completed projects focused mainly on the conservation of habitats and species. **Habitats-related projects** focused on the following: Baltic raised bogs in Pomerania; habitats for rare butterflies of wet, semi-natural meadows; aquatic warbler habitat management through sustainable systems of biomass use; xerothermic grasslands in Poland; habitats in the "Błędowska Desert" Natura 2000 site; priority sand habitats; Kampinos forests; wetlands in Biebrza; Puszcza; Lupawa and Drawa river floodplains; reconstructing habitats and curbing the influence of invasive species in five Polish national parks; alkaline fens in Northern Poland; hydrogenic habitats; caves; and military areas.

Species-focused projects targeted the European bison in the Białowieża Forest; the aquatic warbler in Poland and Germany; the lesser and greater spotted eagles; white stork; priority birds under intensive urban pressure; amphibians in north-eastern Poland; capercaillie; bats; orsprey and waterfowl and wading birds in the Warta River Mouth National Park. The coordinating beneficiaries included research institutes and NGOs, as well as local and regional authorities.

There are 10 ongoing projects in Poland. Some are focused on the conservation and restoration of the following habitats: the hydrological system in the Middle basin of Biebrza Valley; the inland delta of the Nida river; wetlands in "Puszcza Kampinoska" Natura 2000 site; and bat-breeding habitats. The others are targeting the conservation and restoration of the following species: great snipe; waterbird habitats in the Upper Vistula River Valley; apollo; and rare amphibian/reptile species in Natura 2000 sites. One project, Niebieski korytarz Regi, specifically aims at constructing a blue ecological corridor along the valley of Riga river and its tributaries.

Nine closed projects were co-funded under the former Information & Communication and Environmental governance and information strands. FORESTFIRE and FORESTFIRE II increased the knowledge and awareness of both the general public and rural residents concerning the threats linked to forest fires and the ways to prevent such fires. BEST FOR BIODIVERSITY project identified the best practices in biodiversity protection in forest areas, especially within Natura 2000 sites and presented methods of their protection and sustainable management to key stakeholders. Poznaj swoją Naturę raised the environmental awareness of the local community of the value of nature conservation. M-N raised public awareness and knowledge of the functioning of the Natura 2000 network, while at the same time contributing to the better implementation of EU environmental legislation in Poland. Roads for Nature LIFE contributed to reverse the decline of tree avenues and other trees in rural areas, and raising awareness of their importance among local communities. LIFEJustice for Nature increased the efficiency of the implementation of national and EU legislation on nature protection, as well as facilitating the enforcement of environmental law. LIFE Green-Go! Carpathians aimed to increase knowledge and awareness in Carpathian local communities concerning the need to protect biodiversity in rural areas. Trees Green Infra LIFE proposed a cohesive and multifaceted educational and informational campaign designed to conserve trees and support the development of green infrastructure.



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 28 projects in Poland thus far, representing a total investment of €96.5 million, of which €50 million has been provided by the EU.

The closed projects tackled the following themes: integrated management in SMEs; improvement of water quality and water resources quality; diffuse pollution in a river basin; energy regeneration; renewable energies (biogas, geothermal, solar and wind) and energy supply; energy efficiency/saving (demonstrating an innovative system for the efficient management of electrical energy in private households); soil improvement; waste management/recycling (among others in the road construction sector); sewage sludge treatment; site rehabilitation/decontamination (e.g. rehabilitation of areas used for the mining of lignite); forestry/forest management (evaluating the health of forests and monitoring of stand dynamics in Białowieża Forest with remote sensing techniques; air pollution and public health protection (developing a new air pollution management and information system); and development of a monitoring methodology for large forest areas using innovative techniques. The projects were coordinated by universities, research institutes, NGOs, SMEs and a local municipality (Gniezno).

Five closed projects were co-funded under the former Information & Communication and Environmental governance and information strands. The closed projects achieved following results: The DOKLIP project played a pioneering role in Poland in presenting climate issues to the public authorities (county) and to local people. The LIFE KAMPANIA ANTY-AZBESTOWA project carried out a successful campaign to raise awareness of the risks caused by asbestos and the need for public institutions and the general public to be more involved in asbestos removal. The LIFE/3 xEnvironment/PL project widely promoted the idea of saving energy and resources in SMEs. The main aim of the LIFE_ADAPTCITY_PL project was to reduce the negative impact of climate change on the city ecosystem of Warsaw and to use the Warsaw experience to encourage other Polish cities to undertake actions for climate change adaptation. The AGROSAFE project did not achieve its objectives and expected results. Three projects are ongoing: LIFE-MAPPINGAIR/PL project will carry out a broad information and awareness-raising campaign linking air quality forecasts, expanded monitoring, and modern methods of education. The overall goal of LIFEproETV aims to promote and ensure the effective implementation of Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) in Poland, as a voluntary scheme with a strong recognition and acceptance on the EU market. The main objective of the LIFE_AQP_Opolskie_2019.PL project is to shorten the Air Quality Plans' delivery time, increase the capacity and improve the quality of public administration of the Opole Voivodeship at all levels in relation to remedial actions set out in the plan.

Three ongoing Strategic Integrated Projects have been co-funded in Poland under this strand. The main LIFE-IP MAŁOPOLSKA project objective is the full implementation of the Małopolska Air Quality Plan (MAQP) adopted by the regional parliament in September 2013. The main goal of the IP LIFE PL Pilica Basin CTRL project is to improve water quality in the Pilica river catchment. The objectives of the most recently co-funded LIFE-IP AQP-SILESIA-SKY project are summarised in the box below.



Improving air quality in Silesia (LIFE-IP AQP-SILESIA-SKY) LIFE20 IPE/PL/000007

Silesia is Poland's most industrialised region and has one of the worst air qualities in the country and Europe. Though industry is a significant source of air pollution, the largest contributor to emissions is the domestic and municipal sectors. This Integrated Project will oversee the efficient and effective implementation of the Air Quality Plan (AQP) adopted by the Silesian Regional Assembly in 2020.

The project team, coordinated by the Silesian Voivodeship, will implement measures to improve overall air quality by replacing small-scale solid-fuel domestic heating devices with less polluting alternatives. They will also enhance institutional capacity, demonstrate tools and actions that can reinforce the implementation of the AQP, and establish a regional advisory support system and information platform to raise awareness of solutions to improve air quality.

[Project summary](#)



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 10 projects in Poland. The total investment for these projects amounts to €39.5 million, of which the EU is contributing €22.5 million.

The closed LIFE_WZROST_PL project was an information campaign promoting the idea of a sensible policy for climate change and sustainable development.

There are eight ongoing projects: LIFERADOKLIMA PL's overall objective is to make the city of Radom more resilient to climate change by building demonstration 'green/blue infrastructure' for managing extreme storm water flows and controlling local flood risks. The main objective of LIFE Climate CAKE PL is to develop a sustainable and comprehensive system for creating and exchanging information, to support the efficient implementation of EU climate and energy policies. LIFE - UrbanWind .PL aims to construct and test a set of wind turbines captured by range of air streams induced by human activity. The overall objective Refrigerants LIFE Cycle is to limit the emission of fluorinated greenhouse gases into the atmosphere by the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector. The main objective LIFE BIOBCOMPO is to reduce the environmental footprint of new vehicles through innovative low density thermoplastic composites derived from renewable (bio-based) sources, in order to meet the GHG emission reduction target of the 2011 EU Transport White Paper. COOLSPACES 4 LIFE aims to demonstrate the use of renewable energy in the cooling systems of public buildings and the application of low GWP refrigerant mixtures. The main objective of LIFE Archiclimate is to increase the climate change resilience of large-scale commercial buildings (shopping centres, airports etc.) by developing and implementing the innovative Archiclimate system, which comprises vulnerability/risk assessment, adaptation planning and the application of blue-green infrastructure and ecosystem-based approaches. The overall goal of LIFE VIIew 2050 project is to assess the functioning of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), its impacts, its interaction with other EU policy instruments and other international systems, and its possible further development with the view to an EU climate-neutral economy by 2050.

One Strategic Integrated Project has been co-funded in Poland under this strand. The LIFE-IP EKOMALOPOLSKA project's objectives are summarised below.



Getting ready for climate action in the Malopolska Region (LIFE-IP EKOMALOPOLSKA) LIFE19 IPC/PL/000005

In February 2020, the Malopolska region adopted its Regional Action Plan for Climate and Energy (RAPCE). The plan aims to help this Polish region reach the EU's targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This Integrated Project will help to implement RAPCE, allowing the region to make the low-carbon transition. The team will mobilise national and EU public funds as well as those from the private sector. This money will be used to finance priority actions identified under RAPCE. Partners will boost institutional capacity and know-how by organising training courses.

They will also look at how to make the heating appliance market more environmentally friendly. And they expect to create green jobs in the process. The team also wants to change negative perceptions of climate action and will therefore run educational campaigns to promote general climate awareness.

[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.

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
The construction of the blue ecological corridor along the valley of Riga river and its tributaries	LIFE11 NAT/PL/000424	Niebieski korytarz Regi	http://www.liferega.zzmiuw.pl/	06/2012 -> 06/2023
Conservation of selected habitats and species in Ostoja Sowiska PLH220023 and Pobrzee Sowiskie PLB220003 Stage I	LIFE13 NAT/PL/000018	LIFENaturaSlowinskaPL	http://www.lifenatura.slowinskipn.pl/	01/2015 -> 09/2023
Restoration of hydrological system in the Middle Basin of the Biebrza Valley. Phase II	LIFE13 NAT/PL/000050	Renaturyzacja II LIFE PL	http://www.renaturyzacja2.biebrza.org.pl/	06/2014 -> 03/2027
Protection of waterbird habitats in the Upper Vistula River Valley (Dolina Górnej Wisty)	LIFE16 NAT/PL/000766	LIFE.VISTULA.PL	http://katowice.rdos.gov.pl/life-vistula	10/2017 -> 09/2022
Active protection of the rare amphibian and reptile species on the Natura 2000 sites in Europe	LIFE17 NAT/PL/000011	Emys PL LIFE	https://pkpr.life17.pl/	07/2018 -> 12/2023
Implementation of the National Action Plan for Great Snipe in Poland phase 1	LIFE17 NAT/PL/000015	LIFEGALLINAGO ACTION PLAN	https://www.dubelt.org.pl/project.html	01/2019 -> 03/2023
Renaturalisation of inland delta of Nida River	LIFE17 NAT/PL/000018	LIFE4DELTA PL	https://life4delta.pl/	01/2019 -> 12/2024
Protection and restoration of wetlands in "Puszcza Kampinoska" Natura 2000 site	LIFE19 NAT/PL/000746	Kampinos WetLIFE	http://www.kampinoskiebagna.pl/mamy-to-rusza-nowy-projekt-kampinoskie-bagna-ii	09/2020 -> 06/2026
Conservation of Parnassius apollo in Poland, Czechia and Austria	LIFE20 NAT/PL/000151	LIFE Apollo2020	https://parnassius-apollo.life/	09/2021 -> 03/2028
LIFE PODKOWIEC PLUS: back to the forest – holistic conservation of bat breeding habitats	LIFE20 NAT/PL/001427	LIFE+ PODKOWIEC TOWERS	https://lifepodkowiectowers.pl/en/about-project/	10/2021 -> 09/2026

Ongoing LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
"Do you know what you breathe?" Educational and information campaign for cleaner air	LIFE17 GIE/PL/000631	LIFE-MAPPINGAIR/PL	https://mappingair.meteo.uni.wroc.pl/en/957-2/	04/2019 -> 03/2023
Implementation of the air quality management system in the local governments of the Opole Voivodeship	LIFE19 GIE/PL/000398	LIFE_AQP_Opolskie_2019.PL	https://powietrze.opolskie.pl/	10/2020 -> 09/2022
Promotion and implementation of ETV as an EU voluntary scheme for verifying performance of environmental technologies.	LIFE19 GIE/PL/000784	LIFEproETV	https://lifeproetv.eu/	09/2020 -> 12/2022
Implementation of air quality plan for Małopolska Region - Małopolska in a healthy atmosphere	LIFE14 IPE/PL/000021	Małopolska Region	http://powietrze.malopolska.pl/en/life-ip/	01/2015 -> 12/2025
Implementation of River Basin Management Plan in the Vistula basin on the example of Pilica river catchment	LIFE19 IPE/PL/000005	IP LIFE PL Pilica Basin CTRL	N/A	01/2021 -> 12/2030
"Silesia. Blue Sky Restored". Comprehensive implementation of the Air Quality Plan for the Silesian Voivodeship	LIFE20 IPE/PL/000007	LIFE-IP AQP-SILESIA-SKY	N/A	01/2022 -> 12/2027

Ongoing LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation projects				
Project Title	Project Number	Project acronym and link to the online summary	Website	Project duration
Adaptation to climate change through sustainable management of water of the urban area in Radom City	LIFE14 CCA/PL/000101			
System of providing and disseminating information in order to support the strategic implementation of climate policy	LIFE16 GIC/PL/000031	LIFE Climate CAKE PL	http://www.kobize.pl/pl/category/id/71/life-climate-cake-pl	09/2017 -> 06/2022
Pilot testing of innovative compact wind turbine generator system "Urban WindPower Station" set in urban space	LIFE17 CCM/PL/000016	LIFE-UrbanWind.PL	http://www.urbanwind.pl/	10/2018 -> 09/2022
Lightweight bio-based polymer composites for lower emission vehicles	LIFE17 CCM/PL/000049	LIFE BIOBCOMPO	http://lifebiobcompo.eu/	07/2018 -> 02/2023
The demonstrative installation for the separation of refrigerant waste mixtures	LIFE18 CCM/PL/001100	Refrigerants LIFE Cycle	https://life-prozon.eu/	07/2019 -> 06/2023
The impact assessment of the EU Emission Trading System with the long-term vision for a climate neutral economy by 2050	LIFE19 GIC/PL/001205	LIFE VIIEW 2050	https://climatecake.ios.edu.pl/aktualnosci/aktualnosci-life-viiew-2050/aktualizacja-narzedzi-analitycznych-life-climate-cake-pl-dla-modelu-	12/2020 -> 12/2023

			cge-d-place-energetycznego-meesa-transportowego-tr3e-oraz-rolniczego-epica-jednym-z-zadan-projektu-life-viiew-2050/	
Solution for CLIMAtE change vulnerability/risk assessment and adaptation planning in large commercial ARCHItecture	LIFE20 CCA/PL/001573	LIFE Archiclina	https://investeko.pl/lifecogeneration-pl/	07/2021 -> 06/2025
An innovative solar-powered cooling device, based on climate-friendly refrigerant and thermal energy storage	LIFE20 CCM/PL/001607	COOLSPACES 4 LIFE	https://www.coolspaces4life.com/	09/2021 -> 08/2026
Implementation of the Regional Action Plan for Climate and Energy for the Malopolska Region	LIFE19 IPC/PL/00005	LIFE-IP EKOMALOPOLSKA	https://www.malopolska.pl/aktualnosci/srodowisko/malopolska-przygotuje-nowy-projekt-zintegrowany-life	01/2021 -> 12/2030