



European
Commission

SUNCOOL

Take solar with a grain of salt



Building heating and cooling provided by solar collectors manufactured by SaltX in Hägersten, Sweden.

Photo: SUNCOOL

OUR STORY

We entered the cleantech market in 2002 with an invention that stores energy in salt crystals, providing entire buildings with solar-powered heating and air conditioning day and night. LIFE has helped SaltX reach our first clients. We have since listed our company on the Nasdaq First North stock exchange and opened manufacturing lines.



Solar energy



High technology



Climate action

Larger with Life

From 2012-2016, the EU LIFE Programme invested over €1.8 million in the €4.1 million SUNCOOL project to demonstrate that salt crystals can store solar energy for use in heating and air-conditioning systems.

SaltX deployed its patented energy storage technology over urban rooftops in Europe supplying both heating and cooling to entire buildings with clean solar power.

EU added value

- Investment pays back in under **3 years**
- Store energy using **abundant materials**
- Cut energy storage costs by **10 or more**

Prospects

- Mass-produce **1 million units a year**
- Solar industry growing **54 million m² / y**
- Spread solar to heat and cooling sector

Achievements

- Deployed 180 square-meters of **solar collectors** on a coffee roasting house in Karlstad, Sweden
- Saved close to **90% of the energy** consumed by the building's heating and air-conditioning
- Opened a 100-employee **factory** to mass produce SUNCOOL solar collectors
- Provided solar-powered air-condition and hot water to **school students** in Ankara, Turkey
- Energy supplier has ordered **€5 million** of SaltX products for sanitary blocks in rural Ghana
- Won the **Best LIFE-Environment Award** in 2017 and BNEF New Energy Pioneers in 2018

Policy support

- Promote the use of **solar energy** as described in the EU Renewable Energy Directive
- Cut **CO₂ emissions** in line with the EU roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy
- Boost the **efficiency** of building heating systems as set out in the EU Energy Efficiency Directive

Contact

www.saltxtechnology.com

E-mail: marcus.schrauf@saltxtechnology.com

Environment
& Climate
Action



LIFE supporting companies



The **LIFE Programme** has financed green innovation and clean tech solutions since its start in 1992. One of today's key priorities for LIFE is to support close-to-market projects delivering innovative environmental solutions, ensuring that they are sustainable and capable of being widely taken up by society in general, and the economy in particular.

The **Close-to-market initiative's** aim is to help and assist the LIFE projects with market potential to develop towards successfully maintaining project results via commercialisation and upscaling of the proposed innovative solutions.

How can LIFE support beneficiaries with close-to-market activities?

- Expert review of the close-to-market stage of your project and assessment of the close-to-market potential.
- Help with determining milestones and action points based on project readiness and assisting you with their progress during your project's whole lifecycle.
- Flexibility to use the LIFE project budget to get the necessary expertise including market analysis, detailed business plan preparation, coaching etc.
- Linking you with a network of advisers including the Enterprise Europe Network, coaches and accelerators.
- Assistance with financing and contacts with the investor community through events, introducing you to the SME Instrument and the European Investment Bank Group.
- Networking opportunities through LIFE platforms in order to build business partnerships with other key players.
- Gaining additional publicity for your innovative green solutions through the Innovation Radar platform and via dedicated handouts promoting close-to-market activities of LIFE.

“LIFE can help you to sustain and thrive even after the end of the LIFE project.”

LEARN MORE

 ec.europa.eu/life  [LIFE programme](#)
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HOW TO APPLY FOR LIFE FUNDING

The European Commission organises annual calls for proposals.

Full details are available at https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/life-calls-proposals_en

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/life-close-market-projects_en#how-to-apply-for-funding

CONTACT

European Commission – European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) – B-1049 Brussels (CINEA-LIFE-ENQUIRIES@ec.europa.eu)

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