

LIFE 2020

OBJECTIVE

LIFE Programme supports pilot, demonstration, best practices and information projects that contribute to the implementation, updating and development of European Union environmental policy and legislation.

TYPE OF PROJECTS

- Pilot projects: technique or method that has not been applied or tested before, or elsewhere, that offer potential environmental or climate advantages compared to current best practice and that can be applied on a larger scale to similar situations.
- Demonstration projects: put into practice, test, evaluate and disseminate actions, methodologies or approaches that are new or unknown in the specific context of the project (geographical, ecological, socio-economic context), and that could be applied elsewhere in similar circumstances.
- Best practice projects: apply appropriate, cost-effective and state-of-the-art techniques, methods and approaches taking into account the specific context of the project.
- Information, awareness and dissemination projects: supporting communication, dissemination of information and awareness raising in the fields of the sub-programmes for Environment and Climate Action

PRIORITY AREAS

The project has to be aligned to one topic and the related environmental directive of those priority areas. More detailed information regarding topics is available in **Annex III LIFE** Regulation and in the Application Guide:

A. LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency

1. Water, including the marine environment:

- Water, floods and drought.
- Marine and coastal management.
- Water Industry.

2. Waste:

- Implementation of waste legislation.
- Waste and Resource efficiency.

3. Resource Efficiency, including soil and forests, and green and circular economy:

- Activities for industrial symbiosis and knowledge transfer. Development of new models for the shift towards a circular and green economy.
- Soil Thematic Strategy (soil sealing, and improved land use).
- Forest monitoring, information systems, and forest fires prevention.

4. Environment and Health, including chemicals and noise:

- Reduction of the chemicals impact and use of chemical monitoring data.
- Projects aimed at reducing noise from roads and other transport infrastructures.
- Projects aimed at facilitating the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances.

5. Air quality and emissions, including urban environment:

- Air quality legislation and the NEC Directive
- Industrial Emissions Directive
- Urban environment

Type of projects: Best practice, demonstration, and pilot projects

B. LIFE Nature and Biodiversity

1. Nature:

- Conservation status of habitats and species, including marine habitats and species, and bird species of Union interest.
- Support of the Natura 2000 network bio-geographical seminars.
- Action frameworks implementation.

2. Biodiversity:

- Maintain and enhance ecosystems and their services.
- Actions targeting Invasive Alien Species.
- Projects targeting threatened species.
- Pilot or demonstration projects testing and then implementing Green Infrastructure actions.

Type of projects: Best practice, demonstration, and pilot projects

C. LIFE Climate Change Mitigation

Contribute to the implementation and development of Union policy and legislation on climate change mitigation and to the transition towards a low emission and climate-resilient economy (greenhouse gas monitoring, policies related to land use, land-use change and forestry, energy/GHG intensive industrial production, carbon capture and storage, etc.).

Type of projects: Best practice, demonstration, and pilot projects

D. LIFE Climate Change Adaptation

Contribute to the development and implementation of Union policy on climate change adaptation, in particular by developing, testing and demonstrating policy or management approaches, best practices and solutions for climate change adaptation, including, where appropriate, ecosystem-based approaches.

Type of projects: Demonstration and pilot projects

BUDGET

2020: **491.42 M€.**

FUNDING

No fixed minimum size for project budget (from 500k€ to 5Mill€, depending on the project). Usually most of the granted projects **are around 2 Mill€.**

The maximum EU co-financing rate for traditional LIFE projects is 55% of the total eligible project costs.

EVALUATION PROCESS

For A, and B projects in two phases. The first one with an expression of interest of around 10 pages. A second phase for selected projects with a full proposal.

For C and D projects in one phase with a full proposal.

DURATION

There is no pre-determined project duration for a LIFE project. Most projects last for 2–5 years.

BENEFICIARY

Projects could be submitted by a **single applicant or by a partners.**

DEADLINES

- Phase 1 projects **A: 14 July**
- Phase 1 projects **B: 16 July**
- Phase 2 projects **A&B** and projects **C & D: estimated in February 2021**

ELIGIBLE COSTS

- Personnel costs
- Equipment (depreciation)
- Consumables
- Travels
- External assistance (max 35% of the Budget)
- Other goods and services
- Overheads (7% of total direct)

FUNDING INSTITUTION

EASME