

LIFE Calls 2024

Sub-programmes and types of projects funded



LIFE Info Days 2024

The LIFE programme

- The LIFE programme is the only EU funding scheme dedicated exclusively to the environment, nature conservation and climate action.
- The LIFE programme fully contributes to the objectives and targets of the European Green Deal.
- LIFE has funded over 6,000 projects in the last 32 years
- For the years 2021-2027, LIFE has a budget of 5.43 billion €
- Budget for Calls 2024 : 571 million €



The LIFE Programme 2021-2027

To contribute to the shift to a circular, energy-efficient, renewable energy based- and climate resilient economy

To protect and improve the quality of the environment

To halt and reverse biodiversity loss



Nature and Biodiversity



Circular Economy and Quality of Life



Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



Clean Energy Transition

Projects

- Develop and demonstrate innovative techniques and approaches to solving environmental challenges
- Help to implement plans and strategies, required by EU legislation.
- Promote best practices and behavioral changes
- Catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful solutions

Impact

- Support the development, monitoring and implementation of EU environment & climate policy
- Provide models to copy and upscale

Project beneficiaries are:

1/3 private enterprises
1/3 NGOs and civil society organisations
1/3 public authorities



Sub-programme Nature and Biodiversity



**Nature and
Biodiversity**

Contribution to:

- Halting and reversing biodiversity loss.
- Supporting Natura 2000 network and Prioritised Action Frameworks.
- Mainstreaming nature and biodiversity objectives into other policies and financing programmes.

Typical actions

Projects supporting nature conservation and restoration in the Natura 2000 network.

Species protection.

Invasive Alien Species

Ecosystem restoration and much more ...

Integrated implementation of PAF or other plans under the Biodiversity Strategy; mainstreaming biodiversity

Financing of small-scale grants, particularly in Overseas Countries and Territories and Outermost Regions



Sub-programme Circular Economy and Quality of life



Circular Economy
and Quality of Life

**Contribution in
the areas of:**

- circular economy, noise, air, chemicals, green and circular economy, industrial accidents, marine and coastal management, noise, soil, waste, water, and the urban environment.

Typical actions

Support to public authorities and other stakeholders to implement EU environment legislation.

Support to technologies and solutions that are ready to be implemented in close-to-market conditions, at industrial or commercial scale, during the project duration.

Integrated projects beyond air, water, waste to other areas such as circular economy.

Promote upscale and access to finance.



Sub-programme Climate Mitigation and Adaptation



Climate Change
Mitigation and
Adaptation

Contribution to:

- The transformation of the European Union into a climate-neutral and -resilient society, especially through:
- Climate Change Mitigation
- Climate Change Adaptation & Related Governance

On **climate mitigation**, projects that contribute significantly to the implementation of:

- the 2030 energy and climate policy
- the EU Member States' National Energy and Climate Plans
- European Union's mid-century and long-term climate and energy strategy

On **climate adaptation**:

- projects that support the implementation of the new EU adaptation strategy and related national implementation



The sub-programme Clean Energy Transition

predecessors: H2020 – Energy Efficiency market uptake



Clean Energy
Transition



Type of activities: developing and spreading best practice, mobilising investments, improving skills, removing market barriers, raising awareness, educating, empowering.



Types of activities funded under LIFE

Grants

- **Action grants:**
 - Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs)
 - Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)
 - Standard action projects (SAPs)
 - Technical Assistance (TA)
 - Other actions (OA)
- **Operating grants**



Strategic projects (SIPs and SNaPs)

Which sub-programmes?

- LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life
- LIFE Climate Action
- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity

Key dates:

Call open: 18/04/2024

Application deadlines: 05/09/2024 (Concept Note)
06/03/2025 (Full Proposal)

Application procedure:

Two-stage: Concept note and full application

Has anything changed?

No



Standard action projects (SAPs)

Which sub-programmes?

- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity
- LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life
- LIFE Climate Action
- LIFE Clean Energy Transition (NEW)

Application procedure:
One-stage

Key dates:

Calls open: 18/04/2024
Application deadlines: 19/09/2024 (CEQL& NAT, CET)
17/09/2024 (CLIMA)



Technical assistance projects (TA-R)

Which sub-programmes?

- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity
- LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life

Key dates:

Call opens: 18/04/2024

Application deadline: 18/09/2024

Application procedure:

One-stage

What is this about?

- Preparation for facilitating the wide up-scaling and replication of results from other projects funded by the LIFE Programme, its predecessor programmes or other EU funding programmes.



Technical Assistance (TA-PP)

Which sub-programmes?

- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity
- LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life
- LIFE Climate Action

Has anything changed?

Applications should cover both CN and full applications

Key dates:

Call opens: 18/04/2024

Application deadline: 18/09/2024

Application procedure:

One-stage



Other actions - Policy and Legislative priorities projects (PLP)

Which sub-programmes?

- LIFE Nature and Biodiversity
- LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life

Has anything changed?

Yes, the topics for 2024

Key dates:

Call opens: 18/04/2024

Application deadline: 19/09/2024

Application procedure:

One stage



Operating grants for NGOs – FPA and SGA

Calls in parallel

Key dates:

FPA Call opens: 18/04/2024

FPA Application deadline: 05/09/2024

SGA Call opens: 18/04/2024

SGA Application deadline: 17/09/2024

Has anything changed?

- 2-Year FPA

Application procedure:

Framework partnership agreement (FPA) applications will be evaluated.

Two-year partnership agreements will be signed (2025-2026)

SGA applications of successful FPA applicants will be evaluated. The ranking of the SGA will follow the FPA ranking (as per the current MAWP).

1 year SGA will be signed with successful FPA applicants that have a passing SGA application.



Other Actions - Coordination and Support Actions

Which sub-programmes?

LIFE Clean Energy Transition

What is new?

call topics 2024

consulted with MS

Key dates:

Call open: 18 April 2024

Submission deadline: 19 September 2024

Application procedure: One-stage



Calls 2024 – Overview (1)

Call	Indicative budget (M€)	Opening date	Closing date	Indicative grant signature date
SAP – Nature and Biodiversity	158.5	18/04/24	19/09/24	June 2025
SAP – Circular economy and quality of life	79.5	18/04/24	19/09/24	June 2025
SAP – Climate Mitigation and Adaptation	61.98	18/04/24	17/09/24	June 2025
SAP – Clean Energy Transition	4	18/04/24	19/09/24	June 2025
CSA – Clean Energy Transition	77.25	18/04/24	19/09/24	June 2025



Calls 2024 – Overview (2)

Call	Indicative budget (M€)	Opening date	Closing date	Indicative grant signature date
SNaP – Strategic Nature Projects	70	Phase 1 (CN): 18/04/24 Phase 2 (FP): November 2024	Phase 1 (CN): 05/09/24 Phase 2 (FP): 06/03/25	October 2025
SIP - Circular economy and quality of life	50			
SIP – Climate Mitigation and Adaptation	30			



Calls 2024 – Overview (3)

Call	Indicative budget (M€)	Opening date	Closing date	Indicative grant signature date
PLP – Policy and Legislative Priorities Projects	10.5	18/04/24	19/09/24	April 2025
TA-PP	1.1	18/04/24	18/09/24	December 2024
TA-R	6.5	18/04/24	18/09/24	April 2025
NGO	14.37	18/04/24	05/09 and 17/09/24	April 2025



Applying successfully for LIFE: how does it work?



LIFE Info Days 2024

Key Challenges



- There is **significant competition** for LIFE funds
- New **IT environment** and **applications forms**
- Proposals that **fail are either poorly prepared** or simply with limited ambition or risk taking
- But: Key to success is always the same!



Must read

- LIFE Web site https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en – **LIFE project database**
- **Call documents** ([Funding & tender opportunities portal](#))
- **LIFE Regulation and Multi-annual work-programme**
- As relevant, specific information, guidelines designed by your **National Contact Point**



Project Design - I

- **Baseline description should be clear** enough as it is essential for evaluating the potential of the project (AW1)
- The **sequence of actions should be logical** and clearly linked to project description (AW1 - AW2)
- Expected results and quantitative **estimations of projects impacts** (during and after project end) (AW3)



Project Design - II

- **Activities/plans to ensure sustainability** of the project results are absolutely crucial! (AW3)
- **Uptake and Replication** needs to be taken into account and **related project actions** need to be well conceived (AW3)
- Clear **description of beneficiary involved** in specific actions (AW2 - AW4)



Project Design - III

- Limit the number of **actions to the ones essential to achieve the project objectives**
- Coherence in **description and output in Part B and in the Work Packages**
- **Partnership** structure: look for complementarity and avoid redundancy of expertise (key stakeholders should be involved)
- Project duration should take into account:
 - Sufficient time to **gather information** about the impact of project activities
 - Delays in **obtaining permits and authorisations**
 - **Buffer** to allow for unexpected events
- Make sure you meet the **communication requirements**
 - Think about **platform meetings** and **networking events**



Project Design Full Proposal

Good design

Solid analysis of the problem, state of play and solution proposed (baseline)

Key stakeholders involved (incl. users)

Robust assessment of impacts over the life cycle of the solution proposed

Clear strategy on how to sustain and multiply the impacts

Common problems

Insufficient background information (why, who and how)

Rationale for projects is defined during the project

Objectives too broad, too many

Poor partnership (partners don't fit regarding know-how or insufficient budget)

Over-optimistic / unrealistic or lack of quantification of impacts

Replication confused with networking and dissemination

Vague plans to sustain the project/results after project end



Thank you

