



THE LIFE PROGRAMME 2014-2020

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LIFE as a **catalyst!**

Two examples

A) LIFE to foster green growth and green jobs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETaULiYGEYo>

B) LIFE **Berlengas** - a Nature and Biodiversity project in Portugal

<https://vimeo.com/158653705>

LIFE – THEN AND NOW

- ❖ **LIFE 1992-2013:** more than 4700 projects in the fields of
 - ❖ **Nature & biodiversity**
 - ❖ **Various environmental sectors and governance**
 - ❖ **Environmental information**
- ❖ **LIFE 2014 to 2020,** two sub-programmes for:
 - ❖ **Environment**
 - ❖ **Climate action**





Mid-Term Evaluation

of LIFE to be provided to the European
Parliament and European Council by 30
June 2017

WHAT IS LIFE FINANCING?



THE "TRADITIONAL" PROJECTS

For whom?

- ❖ All legal person registered in the EU

For what?

- ❖ Pursuit of general and specific objectives of the 6 priority areas
- ❖ Sub-programme for environment: additional focus on thematic priorities and on project topics (LIFE multiannual work-programme for 2014-2017)

Average size? 1 to 5 beneficiaries; EU contribution: €500,000 to €1.5 million

Co-funding rate?

- ❖ **60%**;
 - NAT under specific conditions linked to conservation actions on priority habitat/species: **75%**

INTEGRATED PROJECTS (IPs)

For whom?

❖ Public administration and other entities active in the field of environment and climate protection and capable of coordinating, besides the IP, complementary actions co-funded by additional private, public (preferably EU) funds

For what?

❖ Implementing Union environmental and climate plans and strategies; big scale; complementary actions with additional co-funding; involvement of stakeholders

Average size?

❖ 2 to 10 beneficiaries; EU contribution: €10 to 15 million; about 3 IPs per Member State

Co-funding rate?

❖ 60%

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (FIs)

❖ For whom?

Entities active in the field of environment and climate protection (NCFF), SME's, households, public administrations wishing to improve their energy efficiency (PF4EE)

❖ For what?

Credits/bank guarantees/ ... for environment or climate **projects** (LIFE MAWP for 2014-2017)

❖ Average size

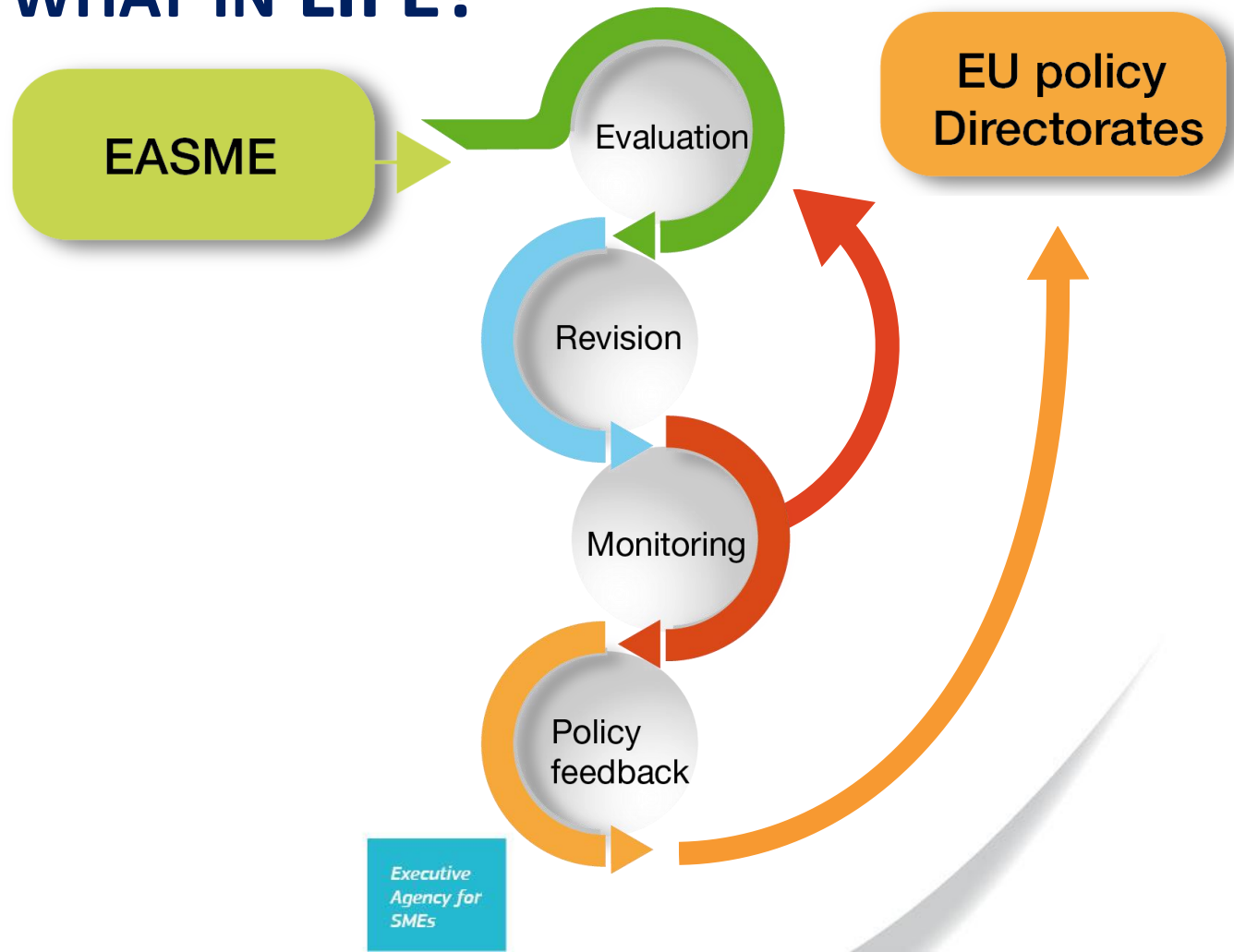
1 recipient; EU contribution: €5 to 10 million (NCFF)

WHO DOES WHAT IN LIFE?

❖ *Actors:*

- **The European Commission for policy steer and supervision**
- **EASME for grants** except environmental integrated projects and technical assistance under environment sub-programme, and preparatory projects;
- **EIB/intermediary banks for financial instruments;**

WHO DOES WHAT IN LIFE?





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neemo
L I F E T E A M



THE EXTERNAL MONITORING TEAM



MAIN ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Monitoring of projects supported by the LIFE Programme:
 - ❖ Checking the compliance with LIFE rules – administrative, financial, communication
 - ❖ Checking the project technical progress – monitoring missions
 - ❖ Policy impact/relevance

- ❖ Organising platform meetings
- ❖ Carrying out analysis, producing studies

NEW LIFE PROGRAMME

❖ Stronger emphasis on:

1. Long term sustainability of the project
2. Replicability and transferability
3. EU added value

❖ Impact indicators

1. LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY

- ❖ Sustainability of project results should be built in the proposal
- ❖ Potential to use project results beyond the project life time

2. REPLICABILITY AND TRANSFERABILITY

- ❖ Go beyond dissemination of project results and sharing of knowledge
- ❖ Include activities and approaches integrated in project actions which aim to facilitate the replication and/or transfer of the project results beyond the project, including in other sectors, regions or countries

3. EU ADDED VALUE

- ❖ Each project should demonstrate EU Added Value in terms of:
 - ❖ quantifiable environmental impact (substantial, ambitious, credible)
 - ❖ Replicability and Transferability
 - ❖ multi-purpose, synergies and integration
 - ❖ Transnational scope (if necessary for achieving project results)

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS - 2016

- ❖ 867 proposals received:
 - ❖ 397 Environment and Resource Efficiency
 - ❖ 240 Nature and Biodiversity
 - ❖ 97 Governance and Information
 - ❖ 133 Climate sub-programme
(51 CCA, 57 CCM, 25 GIC)

AWARD PHASE

199 Projects passed Award phase (2016 Call)

- ❖ 65 Environment and Resource Efficiency (16%)
- ❖ 87 Nature and Biodiversity (36%)
- ❖ 14 Governance and Information (14%)
- ❖ 33 Climate sub-programme (24%) (13 CCA, 13 CCM, 7 GIC)

INFORMATION SOURCES

- ❖ LIFE Web site – It contains everything you need:
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/index.htm>
- ❖ Application Packages
- ❖ Guides for evaluation of LIFE project proposals
- ❖ Guidelines designed and/or information through your National Contact Point
- ❖ LIFE Regulation – priority areas
- ❖ MAWP (Multi-annual work programme) – project topics



MULTI-ANNUAL-FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (MFF)

Prepares the next programming period 2021-2028

EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN AWARD 2017

**The LIFE programme was the winner
in the chapter “Excellence in
collaboration”**



In Małopolska, Poland, concentrations of benzopyrene are 100 times greater than in London. The LIFE team from DG Environment, DG Climate and the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) worked with regional authorities and civil society to leverage €800 million (in addition to an initial €15 million), helping the region implement an air quality plan for the benefit of its 3.4 million citizens.



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<http://life-25.eu/>



Executive
Agency for
SMEs



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BE AWARE

- ❖ It takes **TIME to read** the application guidelines:
 - ❖ Verify that LIFE is the appropriate funding programme for you
- ❖ **Be AWARE** of all the exceptions that may apply to you
- ❖ Financial coherence is a key issue , check systematically **COST EFFECTIVENESS**
- ❖ **Avoid to** include actions not related to the objective of your proposal
- ❖ Remember the 10 points bonus you will get if your project fits the **priority project topics**

The SELECTION procedure will definitely consider these elements when evaluating your proposal



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EVALUATION OF LIFE PROPOSALS: COMMON PITFALLS



THE BASELINE IS INCOMPLETE

- ❖ What is **the problem** you want to address
- ❖ What are the challenges **in your specific context**
- ❖ What has been done so far – **value added of the project**
- ❖ **Baseline data** (surveys, results of tests, etc.) → provide the data source and, when relevant, maps

TARGET GROUP, STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERSHIP NOT APPROPRIATE



- ❖ Who is **affected by the problem**? Who will use the solutions/tools developed?
- ❖ **Local authorities** involved? How? Ensure active participation of key stakeholders
- ❖ **Partnership based on expertise** needed in the project

UNCLEAR LINK BETWEEN ACTIONS AND OBJECTIVES



- ❖ **Are the actions appropriate** to address the problem identified? Use **logical framework**
- ❖ Clearly present **who does what and when**
- ❖ Tools/strategies/methodologies → needed for **concrete implementation**
- ❖ **Transnational?**

SUSTAINABILITY NOT ENSURED



- ❖ Technical sustainability **should be built in the project** ex. scale up pilot, uptake of policy recommendations/tools
- ❖ Responsibilities – who will do the job afterwards?
Who will use the tool/ products developed?
- ❖ Financial sustainability

LOW IMPACT/LITTLE EU ADDED VALUE



- ❖ What are the **changes achieved**?
- ❖ **Value for the EU**: policy update, **new legislation**, changes in **behaviour**, **new product on the market**
- ❖ **Indicators** of impact – n. of people trained is not an impact indicator
- ❖ Negative impact on environment

REPLICATION AND TRANSFER OF RESULTS NOT DEVELOPED



- ❖ Replication in **another area/sector**
- ❖ Only a replication strategy or final workshop is not sufficient
- ❖ Transfer but **adapted to the new context**
- ❖ **Should be built in the project**



CLOSE TO MARKET STRATEGY NOT WELL DEVELOPED

- ❖ What is the **state of art of the solution** /process?
Technical readiness – **no research** (accepted if strictly needed)
- ❖ Quantification of **environmental benefits** - LCA
- ❖ **Market positioning/** commercialisation can start within the project
- ❖ **Business plan/** licences

IMPACT INDICATORS

- ❖ LIFE Programme 2014-2020 puts an emphasis on impact indicators – to measure impact of each individual project
- ❖ Each project has to report on key indicators during and after the project end
- ❖ Social and economic indicators mandatory for ALL projects!