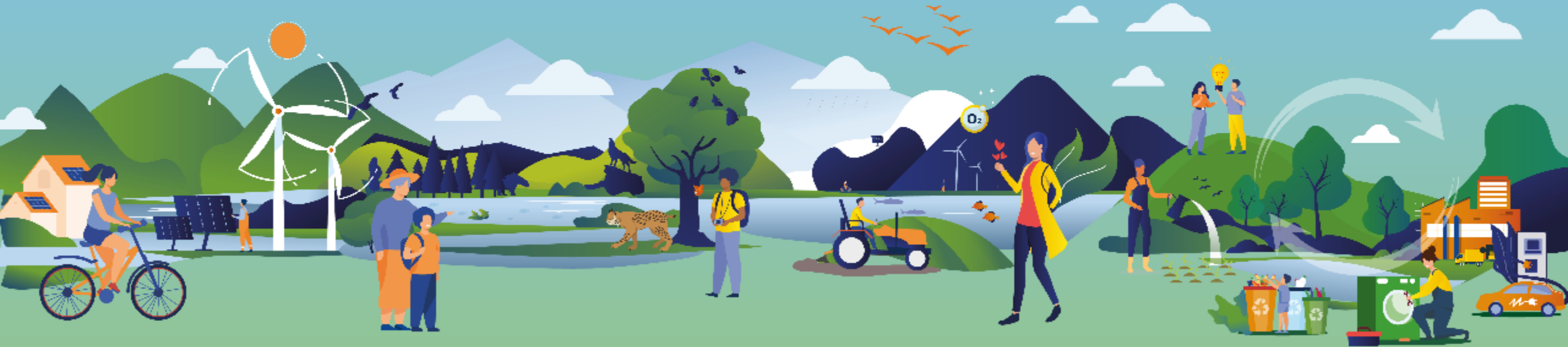


LIFE Programme 2021-2027

News & Updates



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*CINEA - European Climate, Infrastructure
and Environment Executive Agency*

LIFE INFO DAY PT 2025
20 MAY 2025



Overview

- New European Commission 2024-2029. Priorities
- LIFE Programme – an overview
- LIFE Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) 2025-2027 & LIFE 2025 call: Main changes



European Commission 2024-2029 Priorities



- [Political guidelines](#) of 18 July set priorities for 2024-2029
- **Sustainable prosperity** and **competitiveness**, continued focus on **sustainability**
 - Reflected in the mission letters to Commissioners
 - **European Green Deal** as a cornerstone...
- European **Defence and Security** and a **Global Europe**
- Preparing the Union for the future: the next EU-budget
- [Commission priorities 2024-2029](#)



Mission letter – Commissioner Environment

- **Clean Industrial Deal:** Circular Economy act – Bioeconomy Strategy
- **Competitiveness:** Single market- Sustainable products
- **Chemicals - Zero pollution ambition**
- **Implementation of environmental & biodiversity legislation**
- **Nature actions & Private investments → Nature credits**
- **EU Water Resilience Strategy**
- **International biodiversity commitments – Global Plastic Treaty**
- **Climate Adaptation Plan**
- **New European Bauhaus (buildings: innovation, bio-based materials)**

**EU
Green
Deal**

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 33 years
- **LIFE total budget for the period 2021-2027: 5.43 billion €**
- The **MAWP** for the period 2025-2027 was approved in April 2025 ([Funding - Library](#))



Type of activities funded under LIFE



❖ Action grants:

- Standard Action Projects (SAPs) for CEQL, NAT/BIO, CCM/CCA
- Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs) for Clean Energy Transition (CET)
- Strategic Projects (SPs):
 - Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs)
 - Strategic Integrated Projects: Environment (SIP-ENV) and Climate (SIP-CC)
- Technical Assistance (TA-PP and TA-R)
- Preparatory Projects (PLP): addressing ad hoc Legislative and Policy Priorities

❖ Operating grants (NGOs)



LIFE MAWP 2025 – 2027 & LIFE 2025 call

Main changes



LIFE 2025 Call (NAT, CEQL, CLIMA, CET)

- Sub-programme descriptions - updated (sections 2.1 – 2.4.): EU Pollinators Initiative, Nature Restoration Law, European Climate Law, new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, Recommendation for 2040 target, adoption of the FF55 energy legislation, REPowerEU Plan, ...)
- Governance: Updated definition on compliance assurance, public participation and access to justice and now also **behavioural change and awareness-raising initiatives**
- Associated third countries: Iceland, Ukraine, Moldova, North Macedonia, and **Montenegro** Updated list



LIFE STRATEGIC PROJECTS (SPs)

- LIFE SPs cover more plans:
 - ✓ SNAPS : National Restoration Plans - Nature Restoration Law
 - ✓ SIP-ENV: Drought Management Plans as per the Water Framework Directive; Noise Action Plans as per the EU Noise Directive
 - ✓ SIP CC: National Energy Efficiency Action Plans' (NEEAP) have been excluded
- LIFE SIPs: Indicative ceiling of **12 Million € EC co-financing**

LIFE 2025 SAP NAT- BIO



- EC co-funding: **67% funding rate no longer applicable**. Higher funding rate (75%) can be requested only if project targets EXCLUSIVELY priority habitats and species (only relevant to the topic LIFE-2025-SAP-NAT-NATURE)
- Priority habitats/species for higher co-financing rate: **inclusion of new threatened species not yet subject to IUCN Red List Assessment** (only with peer reviewed scientific evidence). This also applies to EU Outermost Regions
- Prioritisation- Urgency: more explicit reference to the **Ornis Committee** (bird species in the EU Birds Directive) and to **large carnivores** (coexistence projects)
- Policy priorities have been updated (e.g. including the **EU Nature Restoration Regulation**)
- Bonus points: **transnational cooperation** - all eligible countries (not only MS)

LIFE 2025 SAP NAT- BIO



Proposals following on previous LIFE projects and coordination requirements for multiple proposals aimed at the same/similar issue:

- explain why a further project is needed and how this will complement the results achieved with the previous project
- Sustainability in the long-term, with resources other than the LIFE
- have taken into consideration other financed LIFE projects that addressed a similar issue. Explain how the proposal builds upon (or differs from) previous ones/ coordination with ongoing projects

Projects involving Natura 2000 site designations or boundaries modifications, update of Standard Data Forms or approval by competent authorities of management plans or other strategic national/regional documents, must:

- submit a formal letter of support or commitment from the MS competent authority
- include a dedicated milestone in the work-plan and proper follow up
- designation/approval is realistically achievable before the end of the project

LIFE 2025 Call – Calendar



- The LIFE Calls for proposals 2025 were published 24/05/2025
- Standard Action Projects (SAPs)
- Technical Assistance (Preparation SIPs/SNAPs and Replication)
- Preparatory Projects – PLPs (ad hoc Legislative and Policy Priorities)
- Strategic Integrated Projects (SNAPs/SIPs):
 - ✓ Concept note - Deadline: 4 September 2025
 - ✓ Full proposal - Deadline: 5 March 2026

Deadline:
23/09/2025

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life-calls-proposals-2025_en

Thank you!



ec.europa.eu/clima/



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