



# EU LIFE Programme – overview of financing opportunities

Helping EU actors target sustainability



# The LIFE programme

- The only EU programme dedicated exclusively to the environment, nature conservation and climate action.
- For the years 2021-2027, a budget of 5.43 billion €
- Call 2024 opens as of 18/04/2024





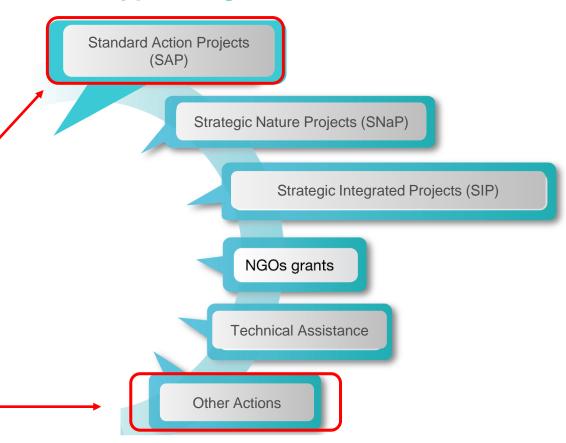
# LIFE Programme 2021-2027

#### **Sub-programmes**

# Nature and Biodiversity Circular Economy and Quality of Life Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



#### **Types of grant**



#### We look for:

- IMPACT
- SUSTAINABILITY
- REPLICATION



## Sub-programme Circular Economy & Quality of Life

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



# LIFE24: Standard Action Projects (SAPs) LIFE-2024-SAP-ENV

- Last year (LIFE-2023-SAP-ENV): Circular Economy and Quality of Life (~ EUR 81 million)
- Projects covering innovation, best practices, etc. (see Chapter 2 of the call document for more details)
- If you fit in specific priority of Chapter 2 (e.g. implementation of an innovative solution for separate collection and recycling of batteries and accumulators), you get more points.
- Co-financing rate of maximum 60 %
- Maximum duration of 10 years
- Typical LIFE grant 0,5-5 MEUR/project
- Application procedure in 1 phase

### LIFE & Close-to-Market (C2M) Projects

green innovation and clean tech solutions

LIFE supports projects with promising market potential to accelerate

- market uptake
- commercialization
- and upscaling of their solutions



## Sub-programme Climate Mitigation & Adaptation

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



# LIFE24: Standard Action Projects (SAPs) LIFE-2024-SAP-CLIMA

- Last year (LIFE-2023-SAP-CLIMA) Climate Action (30 M€ adaptation, 30 M€ mitigation)
- Projects covering innovation, best practices, etc. (see Chapter 2 of the call document for more details)
- Co-financing rate of maximum 60 %
- Maximum duration of 10 years
- Typical LIFE grant 1-5 MEUR/project
- Application procedure in 1 phase



## Sub-programme Clean Energy Transition (CET)







Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



Clean Energy Transition

#### **Key objective:**

 Creating market & regulatory conditions for the clean energy transition; focus on nontechnological aspects

#### Type of activities:

 Developing and spreading best practice, mobilising investments, improving skills, removing market barriers, raising awareness, educating, empowering.



# Funding opportunities: LIFE CET Call 2023

- +/- 100 mEUR available for +/- 55 grants
- 13 policy-driven funding topics with detailed guidance
- Most funding topics: minimum of 3 (eligible) entities from 3 different eligible countries (average number of partners is higher)
- 95% co-funding rate
- Topics info in <u>Funding & Tender opportunities portal</u>
- Examples:
  - One-Stop-Shops Integrated services for buildings and businesses
  - Supporting the clean energy transition of European businesses



# Project example: LIFE HEROTILE





#### LIFE14 CCA/IT/000939 - LIFE HEROTILE

- Developed innovative roof tiles that can passively remove heat, reducing energy consumption for the cooling of buildings by up to 50%.
- Tiles introduced into the market soon after the project ended.
- Total budget 2.4 M€ (LIFE 1.4 M€).

Check the LIFE project database



#### LIFE Calls 2024

- All info in <a href="https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/2024-life-calls-proposals\_en">https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/2024-life-calls-proposals\_en</a>
- To be published 18/04/2024 in the <u>Funding & tender opportunities portal</u>
- Virtual information sessions 23-26/04/2024 (see last slide)
- (Approximate) deadline for submission of proposals: first half September 2024
- Further info/support: <u>LIFE National Contact Points</u>



# General tips



- Check/contact other projects:
   <a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/search">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/search</a>
- Read all relevant info (Call document, FAQs, info/videos in LIFE website) → see slide further down
- Follow the instructions in application template





# Project Design tips

#### **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 lack 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



# Must reads for applicants

- Call documents (<u>Funding & tender opportunities portal</u>) and <u>Model of Grant Agreement</u> and its <u>guidance</u>
- LIFE Regulation and Multi-annual work-programme
- LIFE Web site <a href="https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life\_en">https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life\_en</a> includes support to applicants and link to many resources
- LIFE project database
- Funding and Tender <u>quidance</u> on how to apply: key steps
- Guidelines designed by the individual National Contact Points





- Information about the upcoming 2024 Calls
- Networking opportunities in the format of 1:1 bilateral virtual meetings <u>among potential applicants</u>, <u>both</u> <u>newcomers</u>, <u>experienced LIFE beneficiaries</u>... <u>and National Contact Points</u> available from 23 April until 30 September 2024.

European