

The LIFE Programme



LIFE is the only EU programme dedicated exclusively to the environment, nature conservation and climate action



LIFE has a budget of 3.4 billion EUR for 2014-2020. The Commission has proposed an increase to 5.45 billion EUR for the period 2021-2027



LIFE plays an important role in improving the quality of the environment, in halting biodiversity loss and in supporting the shift towards a resource efficient and low carbon economy

The LIFE Programme 2021-2027

Objectives

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

Sub-programmes



Nature and
biodiversity



Circular economy
and quality of life



Climate mitigation
and adaptation



Clean energy
transition

Actions

Projects (about 4600 from 1992)

- Develop and demonstrate eco-innovative techniques and approaches
- Help to implement and enforce plans and strategies, in compliance with EU legislation.
- Promote best practices and behavioral changes
- Catalyse the large scale deployment of successful solutions

On legislation and policies

- Support their development, monitoring and enforcement
- Help Member States to improve their implementation

Project beneficiaries are:

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

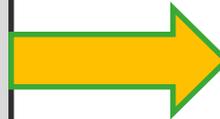
Sub-programme Nature and Biodiversity

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 on-the-ground nature restoration, on Natura 2000 sites or nature-rich landscapes. They target various species and habitats for which these sites have been designated.

Additional specific actions to facilitate mainstreaming

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

Sub-programme 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 market players by testing new business opportunities, facilitating consumers' access to sustainable products and services.

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

Contribution to:

The transformation of the European Union into a climate-neutral and -resilient society, especially through:

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Adaptation



Typical actions

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

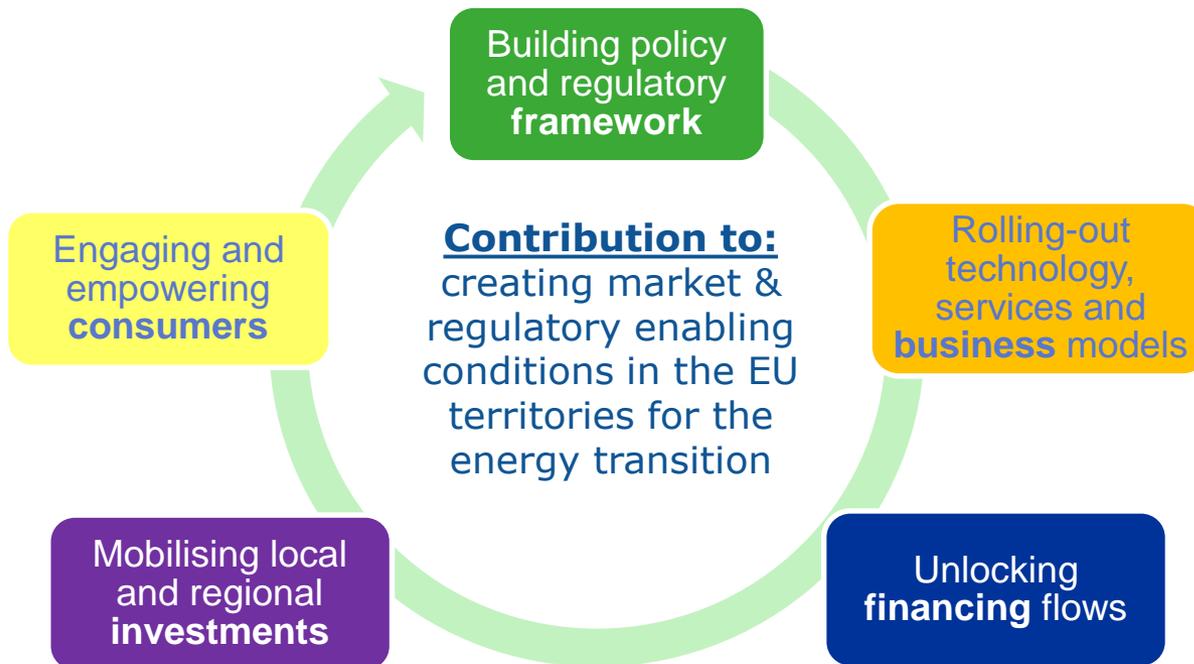
- the 2030 energy and climate key targets for 2030:
 - At least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels)
 - At least 32% share for renewable energy
 - At least 32.5% improvement in energy efficiency
- the EU Member States' National Energy and Climate Plans
- European Union's mid-century and long-term climate and energy strategy

On **climate adaptation**:

- projects that support the implementation of adaptation strategies

The sub-programme Clean Energy Transition

predecessors: Intelligent Energy Europe continued under H2020- SC3- market uptake



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

Project examples

- Since 2014 more than 800 projects have been financed such as:



LIFE IPORSEN project is to address the inappropriate management of wetlands and grasslands in Slovakia. It restores nesting places for some waterbird species, including the black stork and white stork as well as the purple heron.



LIFE project Małopolska in a healthy atmosphere. The project aims to improve air quality in the Małopolska region by ensuring the full implementation of the air quality plan. Malopolska is one of the most polluted regions in the EU.

Project examples



OLIVE-CLIMA (Greece) – worked closely with farmers in Greece to boost the net ecosystem carbon balance through sustainable farming techniques that are adapted to climate change. Aspects of the country's rural development programme have been revised to take the project's lessons into account.



The FinERGo-Dom project will refine and implement an innovative financing scheme to upscale deep energy renovations of Soviet-style multi-family buildings in Latvia, Poland, Slovakia, Romania and Bulgaria. The project will provide safe, healthy and suitable buildings, improving the lives of thousands of citizens across Central and Eastern Europe and minimizing energy consumption.