

LIFE PROGRAMME

EU FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION

National Information Day: Horizon Europe - Life Sciences: New opportunities

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LIFE PROGRAMME

https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en

- The only EU funding programme exclusively dedicated to the environment, nature protection and climate action
- In its 33 years of existence, the LIFE Programme has supported more than **6,000 projects**
- **Legal basis: Regulation (EU) 2021/783** establishing the LIFE Programme (2021–2027) and the **Multiannual Work Programme 2025–2027** defining priorities, budget and call focus.
- Current budget (2021–2027): **€5.4 billion**
- According to current MFF proposals post-2027, environmental and climate funding may be integrated into broader EU instruments.



LIFE PROGRAMME

Objective of the LIFE Programme

- To deliver measurable positive change to the environment and climate
- Supports innovative and practical solutions with European added value
- Focus on implementation and real-life impact

LIFE Calls – Timing

- Calls published by CINEA
- Typical timeline:
 - spring – call publication, autumn – proposal submission



COMPLEMENTARITY TO HORIZON

Why connect Horizon Europe and LIFE?

- Horizon Europe develops **research, knowledge and innovation** - LIFE builds on **Horizon results** and implements them in real-life conditions
- Clear **continuum from research to implementation and market uptake**
- Focus on **measurable environmental and climate impact**
- Shared priority themes and **aligned administrative rules** (Annotated Grant Agreement)

COMPLEMENTARITY TO HORIZON

Key differences – what makes LIFE different?

- Focus on **implementation and demonstration**, not basic research
- Strong emphasis on **replication, scaling-up and transferability**
- Direct contribution to **EU environmental and climate policies**
- **Impact-oriented outputs**, not scientific publications
- **No basic research or large infrastructure** (except prototypes)

SYNERGIES BETWEEN LIFE AND HORIZON EUROPE

HORIZON, Cluster 6



**LIFE
sub-programme**

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

- Understanding drivers of biodiversity loss
- Research supporting EU biodiversity policies
- Developing sustainable practices across sectors

Nature and Biodiversity

- Halting and reversing biodiversity loss
- Natura 2000: restoration and management
- Practical conservation of species and habitats



SYNERGIES BETWEEN LIFE AND HORIZON EUROPE

HORIZON, Cluster 6

Circular Economy and Bioeconomy

- Promoting circularity at local and regional levels
- Bio-based innovation and sustainable management of resources
- Using aquatic biological resources and blue biotechnology



LIFE sub-programme

LIFE – Circular Economy and Quality of Life

- Transition to a sustainable, circular, toxic-free economy
- Protecting, restoring, and improving environmental quality
- Recovery of resources from waste, water, air, soil, and chemicals



SYNERGIES BETWEEN PROGRAMME LIFE AND HORIZON EUROPE

HORIZON, Cluster 6



LIFE sub-programme

Land, Ocean and Water for Climate Action

- Adaptation and resilience of natural and managed ecosystems
- Climate change mitigation in primary sectors
- Sustainable management of scarce resources

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

- Sustainable farming, land use, peatlands, and energy
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Urban adaptation, flood and drought management, infrastructure resilience
- Preparedness for extreme weather events



SYNERGIES BETWEEN LIFE AND HORIZON EUROPE

HORIZON, Cluster 6



LIFE sub-programme

Innovative governance, environmental observations and digital solutions in support of the Green Deal

- Innovative governance models for sustainability and resilience
- Deployment and use of environmental observation data and green solutions
- Strengthening the Global Earth Observation System of Systems

Climate Governance and Information (part of climate sub-programme)

- Support to European Climate Pact, sustainable finance, awareness and training
- Information and dissemination projects on climate matters
- Public and stakeholder support for EU policy-making



CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION SUB-PROGRAMME

Previously funded under Horizon Europe; since 2021 implemented as part of the LIFE Programme

- Focus on **energy efficiency, renewable energy and clean energy solutions**
- Support for **market uptake, replication and scaling-up** of proven solutions
- Strong emphasis on **capacity building, skills and stakeholder engagement**
- [Call Document LIFE-2025-CET](#)

Co-
financing
rate: 95 %



STANDARD ACTION PROJECTS

- **Run in partnership**, recommended max. 5 partners
- **Project lifespan**: max.10-year duration, 3-5 years on average
- **Average budget**: 3 – 6 mil. Euro
- **EU co-financing rate**: 60 % - 95 %
- **National co-funding possible**

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Legal entities based in the EU (exceptions Iceland, the Ukraine):
 - **Public entities** (regional authorities, municipalities, universities)
 - **Private commercial entities and research institutions**
 - **Private non-commercial entities** - NGOs.
- Experienced applicants with a clear vision of measurable change that can help fulfil the programme objective and hence support the EU environmental and climate legislation.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ **National Contact Point** for LIFE programme in the Czech Republic
- ✓ **Partner** in several implemented LIFE projects.
- ✓ **Provider of national funds** to LIFE
 - **National call** for project concepts aspiring to be submitted to the LIFE call – to support successful applicants in the EU call.
- **Where can we help?**
 - Thorough consultancy service – before and after the submission phase
 - National funding source

USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACTS

CINEA websites: https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en - call documents, presentations, entry to electronic proposal

MoE websites: <https://www.program-life.cz/> – overview of Czech LIFE projects, programme documents, information on national call

Contacts to the **Czech LIFE NCP:**

Unit of International Programmes and Projects, Department of Financial and Voluntary Instruments, Ministry of the Environment: life@mzp.gov.cz,

tel. 267 122 829, 267 122 967

THANK YOU.

The future is green. The future is *Life*

Discover the EU's new LIFE programme for the environment and climate action



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