Ministry of the Environment
of the Czech Republic

LIFE programme

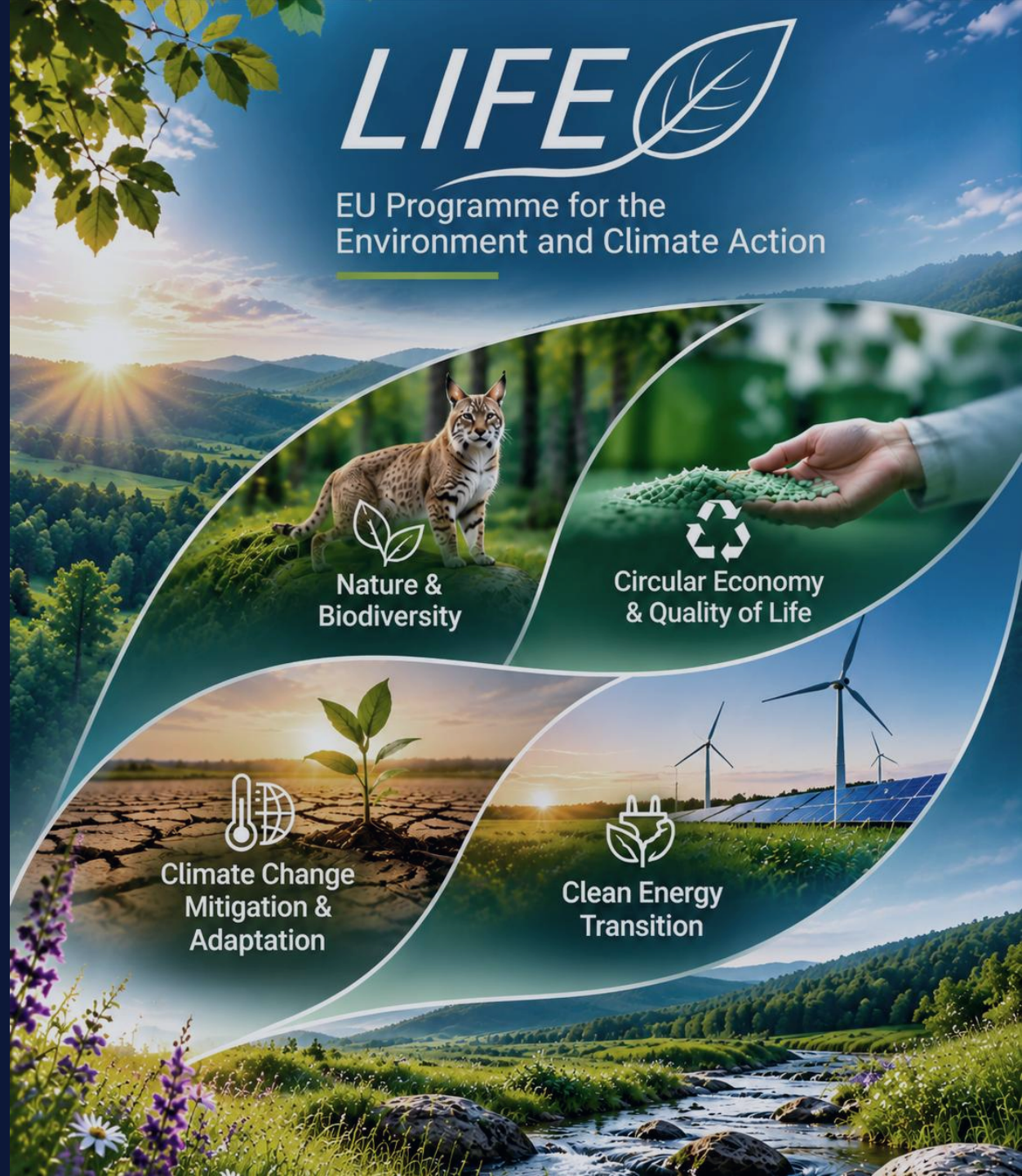
EU Financial Instrument for the Environment and Climate Action

Horizon Europe - Life Sciences: New opportunities

Ing. Kateřina Silberová

Department of International Programmes and Projects
Department of Voluntary Instruments, International Programmes and Projects
Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

19.11.2026



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 34 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

Objectives 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)



BONUS POINTS: +2 points for proposals that substantially build on or upscale results of other EU-funded projects (e.g. Horizon Europe).

Complementarity to Horizon

Key differences – what makes LIFE different?

- Focus on **implementation and demonstration**, not basic research
- Strong focus 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

Co-financing rate: 60%

HORIZON, Cluster 6

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

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

LIFE sub-programme

Nature and Biodiversity

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

Call Document (PDF)



Synergies between LIFE and Horizon Europe

Co-financing rate: 60%

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

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

Call Document (PDF)



Synergies between LIFE and Horizon Europe

Co-financing rate: 60%

HORIZON, Cluster 6

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

LIFE sub-programme

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

Call Document (PDF)



Clean energy transition sub-programme

Co-financing rate: 95%

- *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 (PDF)



Standard Action Projects



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

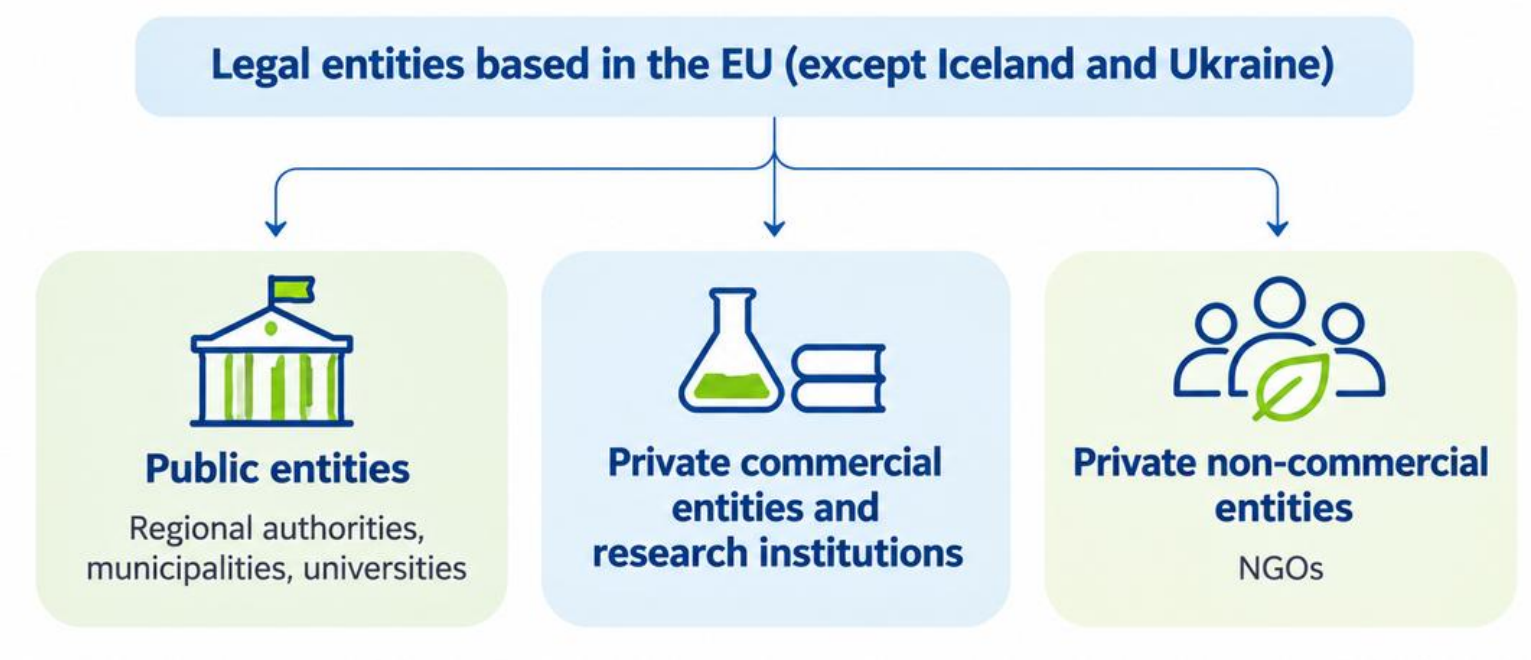


National LIFE Call (NV LIFE)

- **Timing:** Usually launched in March, with a deadline in **June**, ahead of the EU LIFE call deadline.
- **Co-funding:** Additional national support of up to **25%** per project.
- **Project preparation support:** Funding for the preparation of project documentation (e.g. project proposal) is available **to all applicants**, regardless of the outcome of the EU LIFE call.
- **Evaluator feedback:** Applicants can receive feedback from evaluators before submitting their proposal to the EU call.

More information: [National LIFE Call – Czech Republic]

Eligible applicants



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.

National Contact Point (MoE)

How can we help?



Project development

- Project idea consultation
- Guidance before and after submission
- Partner search and networking



National funding

- National LIFE calls
- Co-financing opportunities
- Support for Czech applicants

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

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of the Czech Republic



Thank you for your attention!

Ing. Kateřina Silberová

katerina.silberova@mzp.gov.cz

267 122 829

Funded by the project LIFE for Czechia (Project ID 101101830)