



# The LIFE Programme and Natura 2000

Updates – Focus on the Boreal Region  
Moira Wilputte, ELMEN EEIG



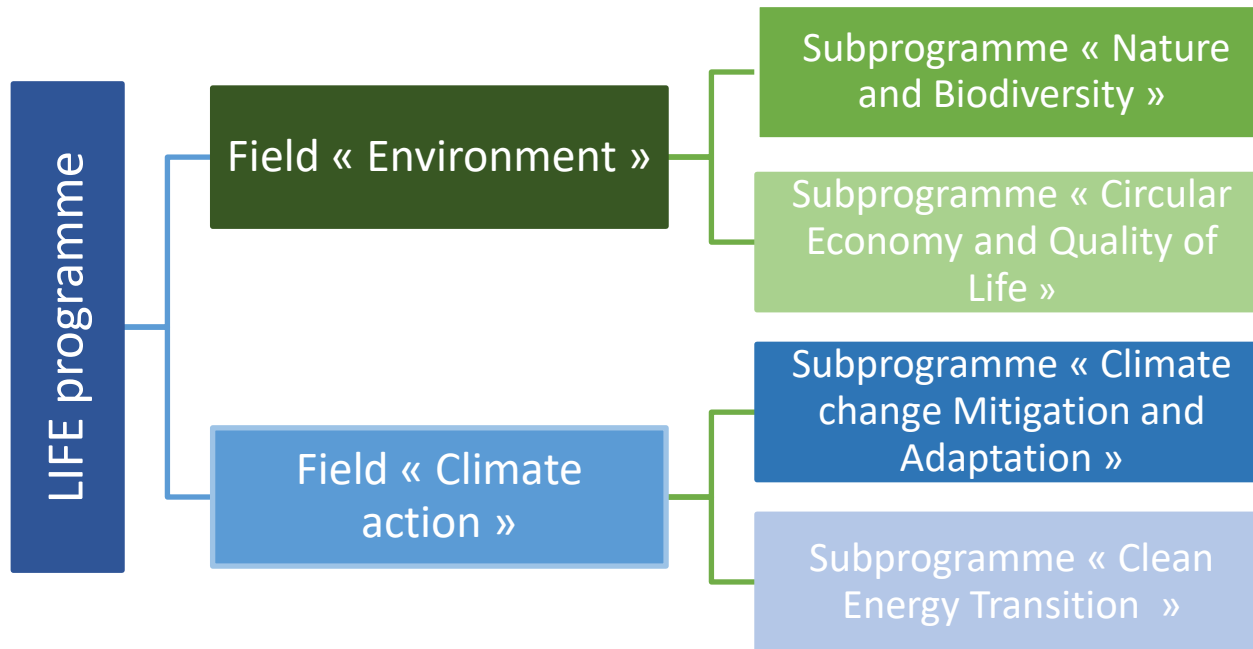
# The LIFE programme

- The LIFE programme as a whole constitutes a 100% contribution to the objectives and targets of the **European Green Deal**.
- The only EU programme dedicated exclusively to the environment, nature conservation and climate action.
- It is over 30 years 'young'



# The LIFE programme

- For the years 2021-2027: budget of 5.43 billion €
  - 3.4 billion € for LIFE 2014-2020
  - Call 2023 budget: 611 million €
- The multiannual work programme for 2021-2024 was adopted in July 2021.



# Type of projects funded under LIFE

## Grants

- **Action grants:**
  - **Standard Action projects (SAPs)**
  - **Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)**
  - **Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)**
  - **Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)**
  - **Preparatory projects addressing ad hoc Legislative and Policy Priorities (PLP)**
  - **Technical Assistance (TA-PP and TA-RR)**
- **Operating grants** (*call restricted to entities that signed a LIFE Framework Partnership Agreement*)



Source : <https://getpolite.eu/category/grant-agreement/>

# Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

There are three calls for LIFE SAPs in 2023:

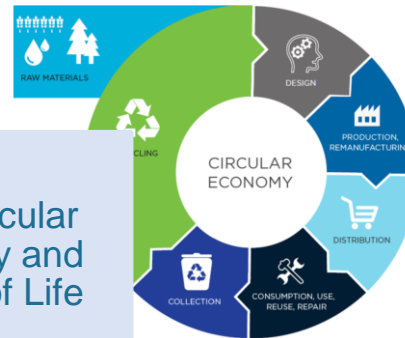
LIFE Nature and  
Biodiversity



LIFE Climate  
Change  
Mitigation and  
Adaptation



LIFE Circular  
Economy and  
Quality of Life



One stage application procedure

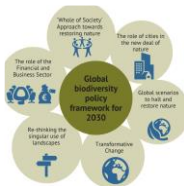
# Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

- ‘Traditional’ LIFE projects aiming to



Develop, demonstrate and promote innovative techniques, methods and approaches

Contribute to the knowledge base and to the application of best practices



Support the **development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of the relevant Union legislation and policy**, including by improving governance at all levels, in particular through enhancing capacities of public and private actors and the involvement of civil society

Catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful technical and policy related solutions for implementing the relevant Union legislation and policy by replicating results, **integrating related objectives into other policies** and into public and private sector practices, **mobilising investment and improving access to finance**.



# Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

- **Co-financing rate**
  - **75%** for projects **targeting exclusively priority habitats and/or species**
  - **67%** for project **targeting both priority and non-priority habitats and/or species**
  - **60%** all **other projects**

⇒ Maximum 10-year duration

*Best practice, demonstration, innovation...*

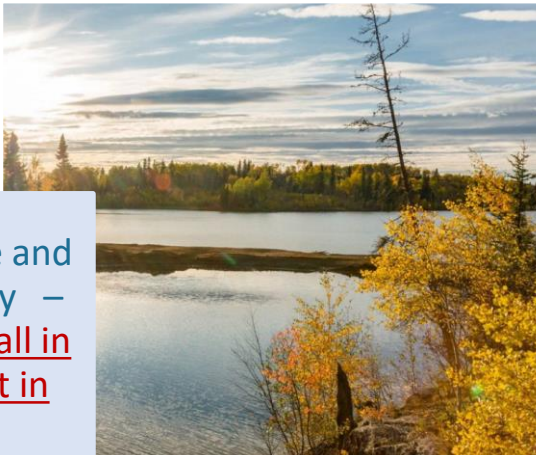
⇒ Projects focusing on best-practice are perfectly eligible.

*Eligible and suitable for the implementation of pledges*



# Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)

- SNaPs:

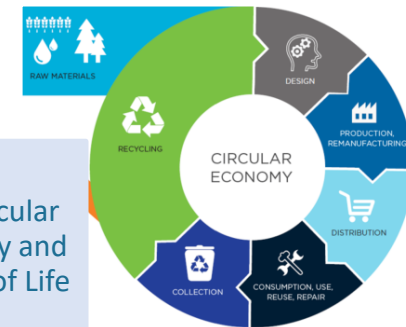


LIFE Nature and Biodiversity –  
no SNaPs call in LIFE23 but in 2024

- SIPs:



LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life

## Two-stage application procedure



# Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)

**70**  
**Integrated**  
**Projects**  
**so far**

2014 ▶ 2020

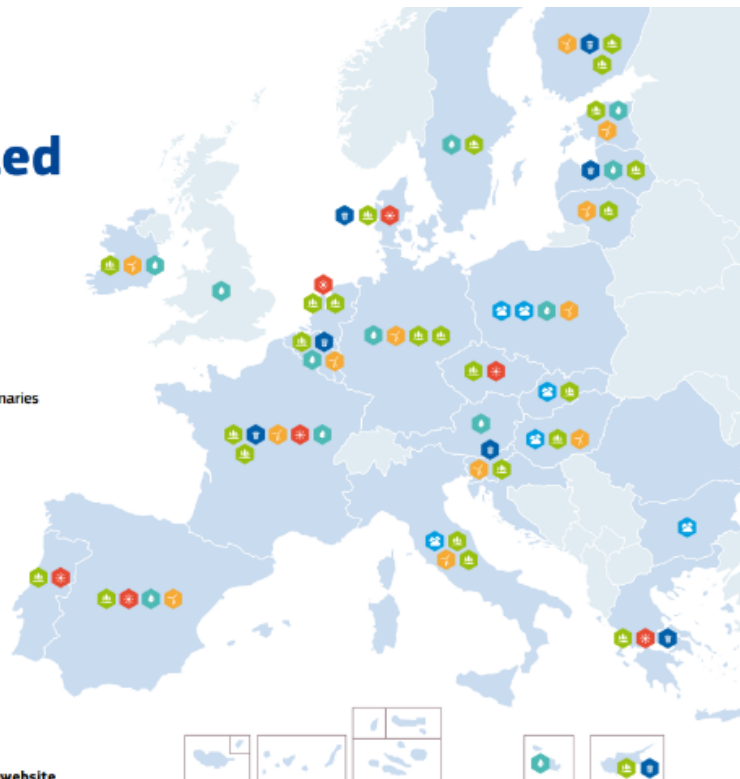
Click on the map icons to see  
the corresponding project summaries



You can see a complete list of  
LIFE Integrated Projects **on our website**

**Learn more**  
[ec.europa.eu/life](https://ec.europa.eu/life)   [f](#) LIFE programme  
[@LIFEprogramme](#)   [m](#) LIFE programme

**How to apply for LIFE funding**  
 The European Commission organises annual calls for proposals.  
 Full details are available at [ec.europa.eu/life](https://ec.europa.eu/life)



- **Eight new SIPs and SNaPs** from **Belgium, Estonia, Spain, Italy, Poland (2), Slovakia and Finland** will get EU funding.
- They will enhance rivers and wetlands, boost biodiversity, cut emissions, improve climate adaptation, and tackle plastic waste.

# Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)

- **Focussing on the implementation of**

The Prioritised  
Action Frameworks  
(PAFs) under the  
Habitats Directive

Other plans or strategies that  
implement EU nature and/or  
biodiversity policy or  
legislation on international,  
national, regional or  
multiregional level

Eligible and suitable  
for the  
implementation of  
pledges

- Require integrated approaches and complementary funds mobilisation
- Require mainstreaming of biodiversity objectives into other policies and instruments
- Co-financing rate of **60%** maximum, max. **14-year** duration



# Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)



## Key issues to be considered

- **The national (regional) authorities competent for nature and biodiversity and responsible for PAF implementation, shall participate in the SNaP proposals, either as applicant (coordinating beneficiary) or, in duly justified cases, as associated beneficiaries.**
- To ensure the **highest possible geographical coverage** of SNAPs by 2027, regional authorities are strongly encouraged to team up with other regions when preparing their proposal.
- **Transboundary SNaPs:** A coordinated implementation of SNAPs between Member States is strongly encouraged.



# Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs)

- Focussing on the implementation of



## Circular Economy and Quality of Life (ENV)

- **Circular Economy:** national or Regional Circular Economy Action Plans, Strategies, Roadmaps or similar
- **Waste:** national and regional Waste Management Plans and/or Waste Prevention Programmes
- **Water:** *River Basin Management Plans, Flood Risk Management Plans, Marine Strategies*
- **Air:** Air quality plans pursuant to the Ambient Air Quality Directive, National Air Pollution Control Programme



## Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation (CLIMA)

- **National Energy and Climate Plans;** National Energy Efficiency Action Plans;
- **National or regional adaptation strategies or action plans;**
- Urban or community-based action plans pioneering the transition to a climate neutral and/or climate resilient society;
- **National, regional or industry-/sector-specific greenhouse gas mitigation strategies** or economy roadmaps contributing to climate neutrality

- Co-financing rate of 60% maximum
- Maximum 14-year duration

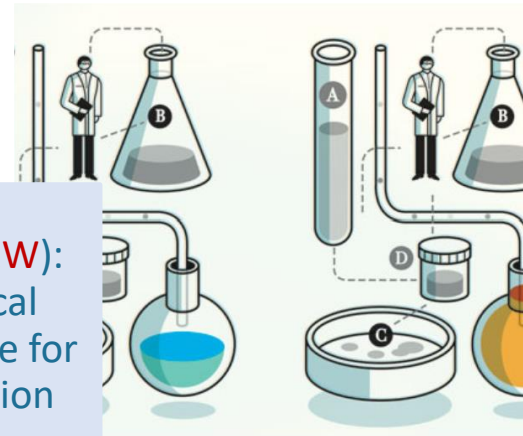
# Technical Assistance Projects (TAs)

- There are **two TA calls in 2023:**



TA-PP:  
Support to the  
Preparation of  
SNAPs and  
SIPs

- Co-financing rate of maximum **60%**
- Maximum LIFE contribution of **EUR 70,000**



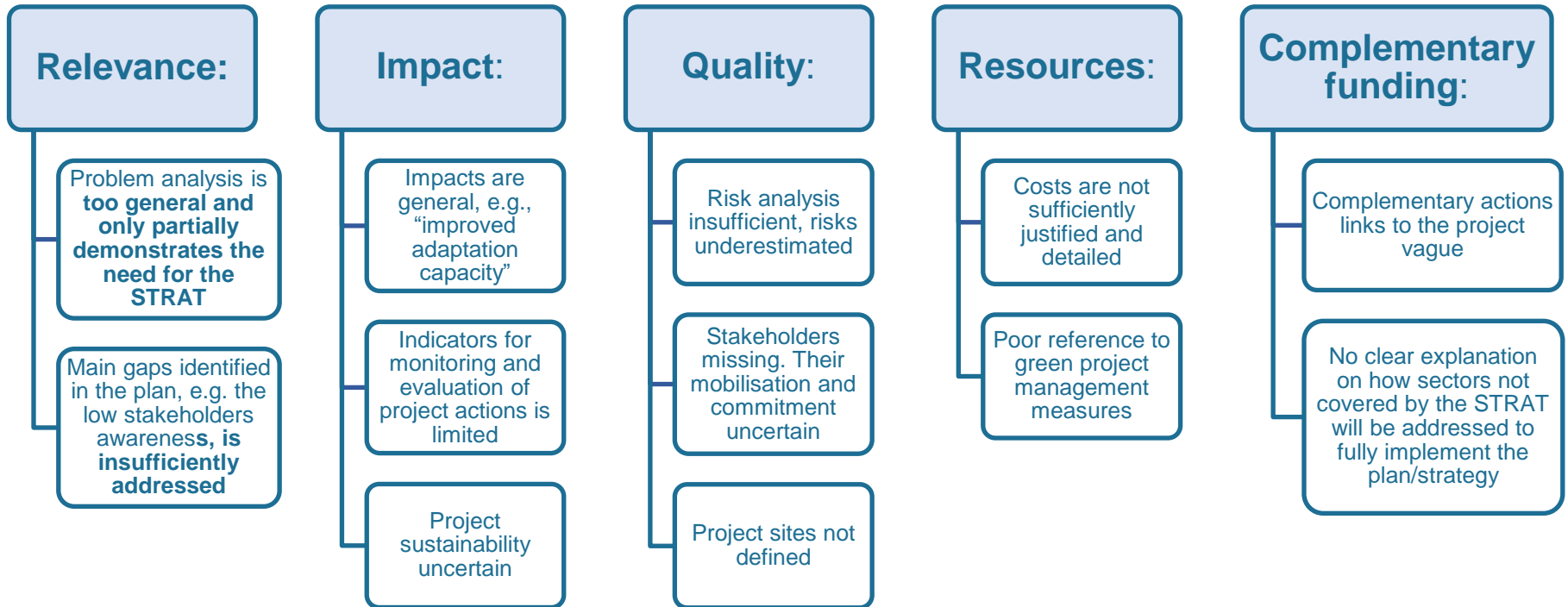
TA-R (**NEW**):  
Technical  
Assistance for  
Replication

- **Preparation for facilitating the up-scaling and replication of results from other projects funded by the LIFE Programme, its predecessor programmes or other EU funding programmes**
- LIFE23: Call only proposals in the field of 'Environment' (i.e. 'Nature and Biodiversity' and 'Circular Economy and Quality of Life')
- **60%** co-funding
- Call budget **6.5 M€**

**One stage application procedure**

# Lessons learned

## Overall common mistakes



Type your Keywords... [Q](#)

Match whole words only

GRANTS  TENDERS

**Submission status**

[Forthcoming](#) [Open for submission](#) [Closed \(3\)](#)

**Programming period**

Select a Programme period... [X](#)

Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) [X](#)

**Filter by call**

LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA (3) [X](#) [v](#)

**Type of grants calls**

### Funding and tenders (3)



Sort by:

Submission status [v](#)

#### Climate Change Mitigation

LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA-CCM

[Call for proposal](#) [Grant](#)

<b>Programme</b>	Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)	<b>Status</b>	Closed
<b>Type of action</b>	LIFE Project Grants	<b>Deadline model</b>	single-stage
<b>Opening date</b>	13 July 2021	<b>Deadline date</b>	30 November 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time

#### Climate Change Adaptation

LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA-CCA

[Call for proposal](#) [Grant](#)

<b>Programme</b>	Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)	<b>Status</b>	Closed
<b>Type of action</b>	LIFE Project Grants	<b>Deadline model</b>	single-stage
<b>Opening date</b>	13 July 2021	<b>Deadline date</b>	30 November 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time

#### Climate Governance and Information

LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA-GOV

[Call for proposal](#) [Grant](#)

<b>Programme</b>	Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)	<b>Status</b>	Closed
<b>Type of action</b>	LIFE Project Grants	<b>Deadline model</b>	single-stage
<b>Opening date</b>	13 July 2021	<b>Deadline date</b>	30 November 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time



# LIFE in the Boreal context





# LIFE in the boreal context

A stylized illustration of a boreal forest with various shades of green and brown trees and a winding path.

Since 1992 LIFE has provided funding and possibilities for the implementation of nature projects

**492** ongoing or closed LIFE projects in the Boreal region

**209** Nature projects striving to maintain and improve biodiversity, ecosystems and, in particular, the **Natura 2000 network**

Read more: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/index.cfm>

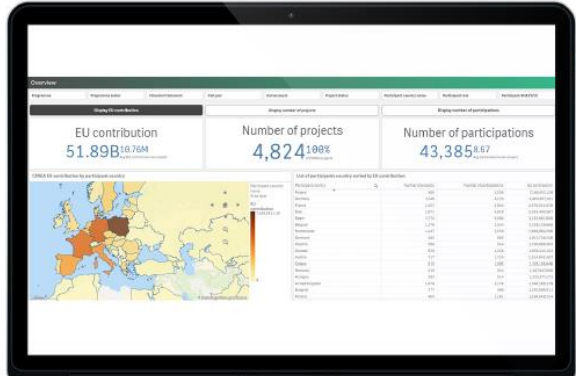
# LIFE in the boreal context

- Many projects in the region can be linked to one or more themes of the seminar :




# Thank you for your attention !

**CHECK OUT THE *Life* PROGRAMME PUBLIC DASHBOARD!**



**#OpenData**

LIFE Project Portfolio | Aperçu de l'application - Qlik Sense (europa.eu)




[https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life\\_en](https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en)



[LIFE Programme](#)



[@LIFEprogramme](#)  
[@CleanEnergy\\_EU](#)



[LIFE Programme](#)



[LIFE Programme](#)



[@LIFEprogramme](#)



[LIFE Newsletter](#)  
[Clean Energy Newsletter](#)

