

# The LIFE Programme and Natura 2000

Updates – Opportunities - Challenges



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4th Natura 2000 Biogeographical Seminar for the Atlantic Region, 04-06. 09.2013, Hannover, DE

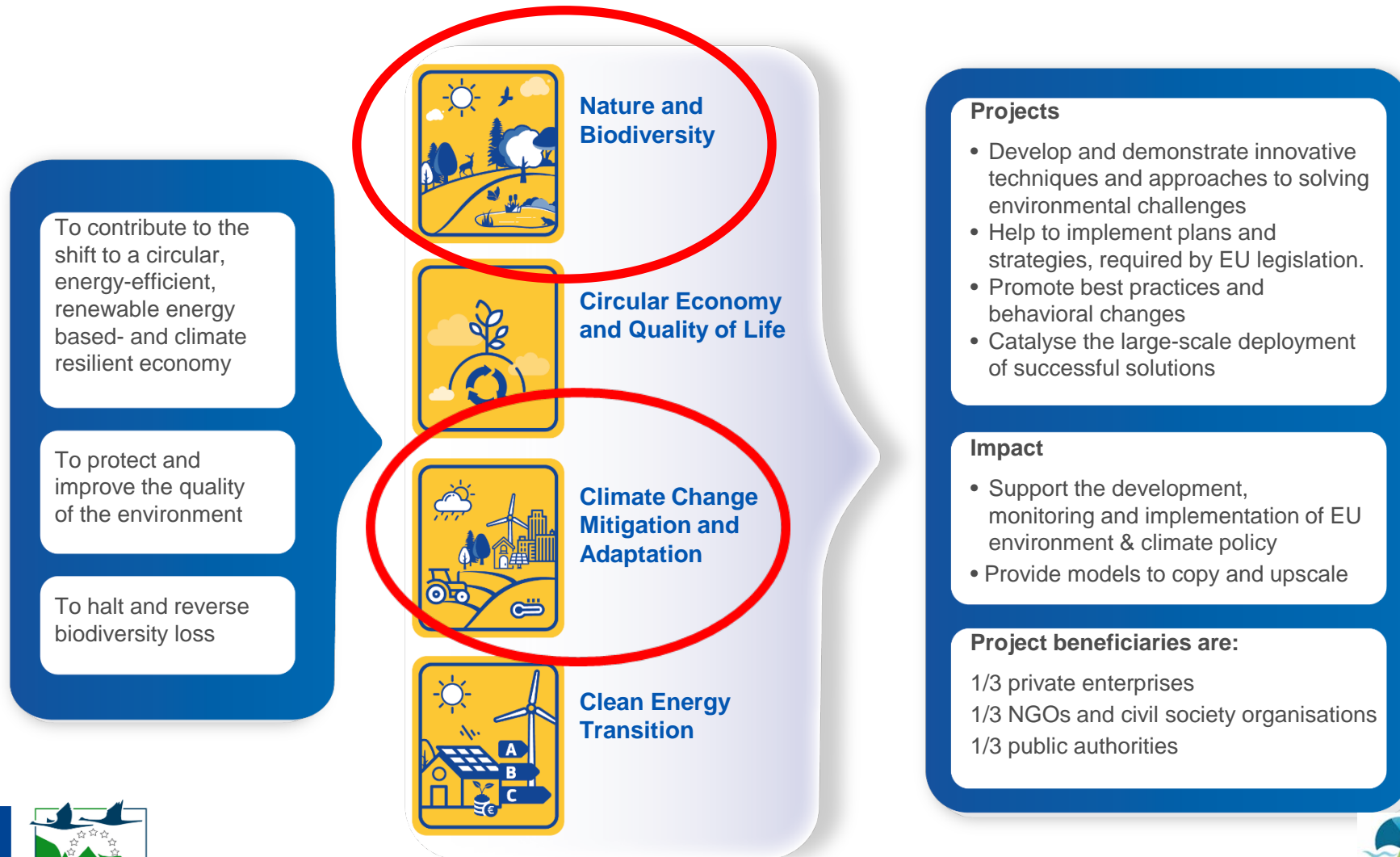


# The LIFE programme

- 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.
- LIFE is over 30 years 'young'
- For the years 2021-2027, a budget of 5.43 billion €.
- The multiannual work programme for 2021-2024 was adopted in July 2021.
- Call 2023 budget: 611 million €



# The LIFE Programme 2021-2027



# Sub-programme Nature and Biodiversity



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 nature conservation and restoration in the Natura 2000 network.**

Species and habitat protection

Invasive Alien Species

**Ecosystem restoration** and much more ...

**Integrated implementation** of PAF or other plans under the Biodiversity Strategy; **mainstreaming biodiversity**

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



# Sub-programme Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation



Climate Change  
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 & Related Governance

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





# Types of activities 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*)



# Standard Action Projects (SAPs)

There are three calls for LIFE SAPs in 2023:

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

One stage application procedure



Source: <https://ied.eu/blog/life-climate-change-mitigation/>



# 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

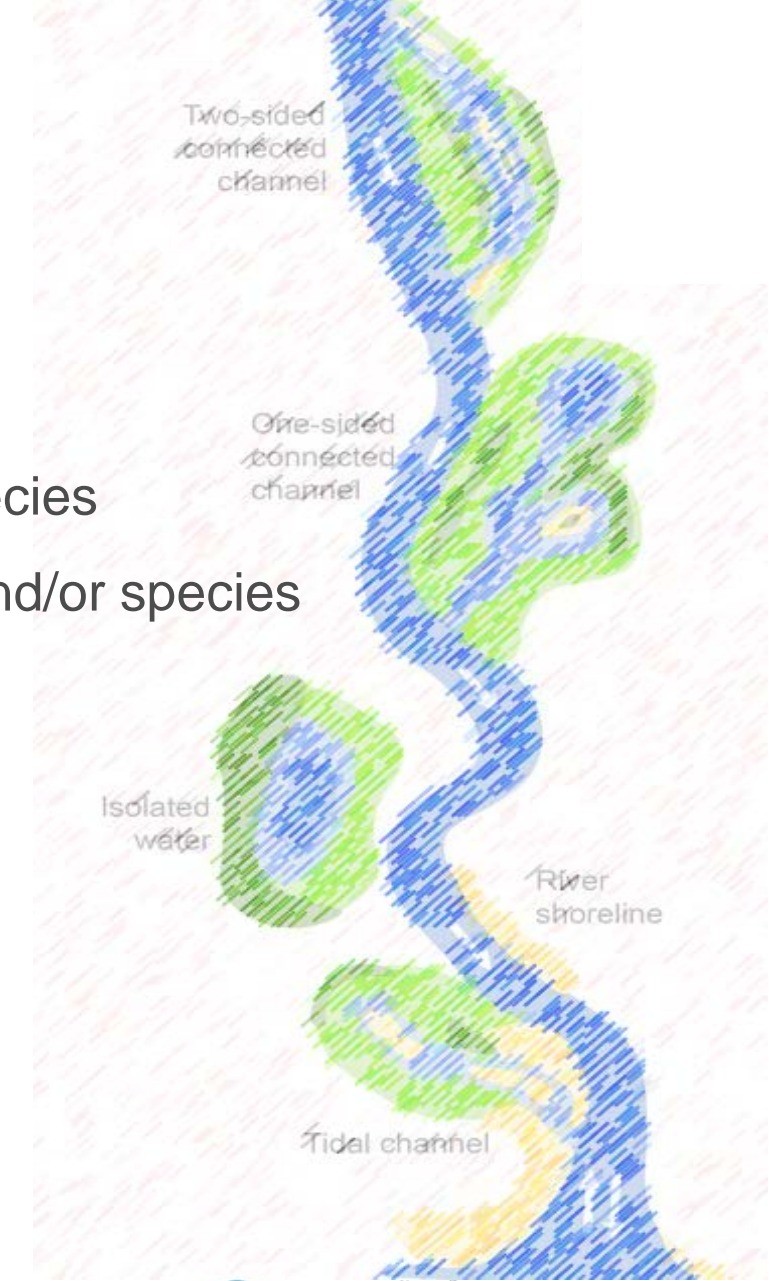
- 75% for projects targeting exclusively priority habitats and/or species
- 67% for project targeting both priority and non-priority habitats and/or species
- 60% all other projects

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:

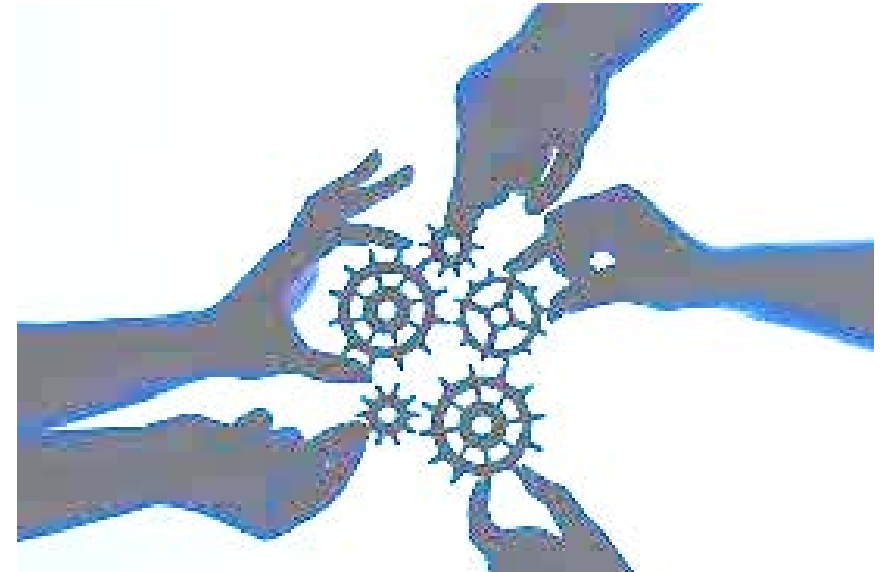
**LIFE Nature and Biodiversity** – no SNaPs in LIFE23 but in 2014

SIPs:

LIFE Circular Economy and Quality of Life

**LIFE Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation**

Two-stage application procedure



# Strategic Nature Projects (SNaPs)



- Focussing on 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)

- Co-financing rate of 60% maximum
- Maximum 14-year duration
- **Circular Economy and Quality of Life:**
  - 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 Programmes
- **Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation:**
  - 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



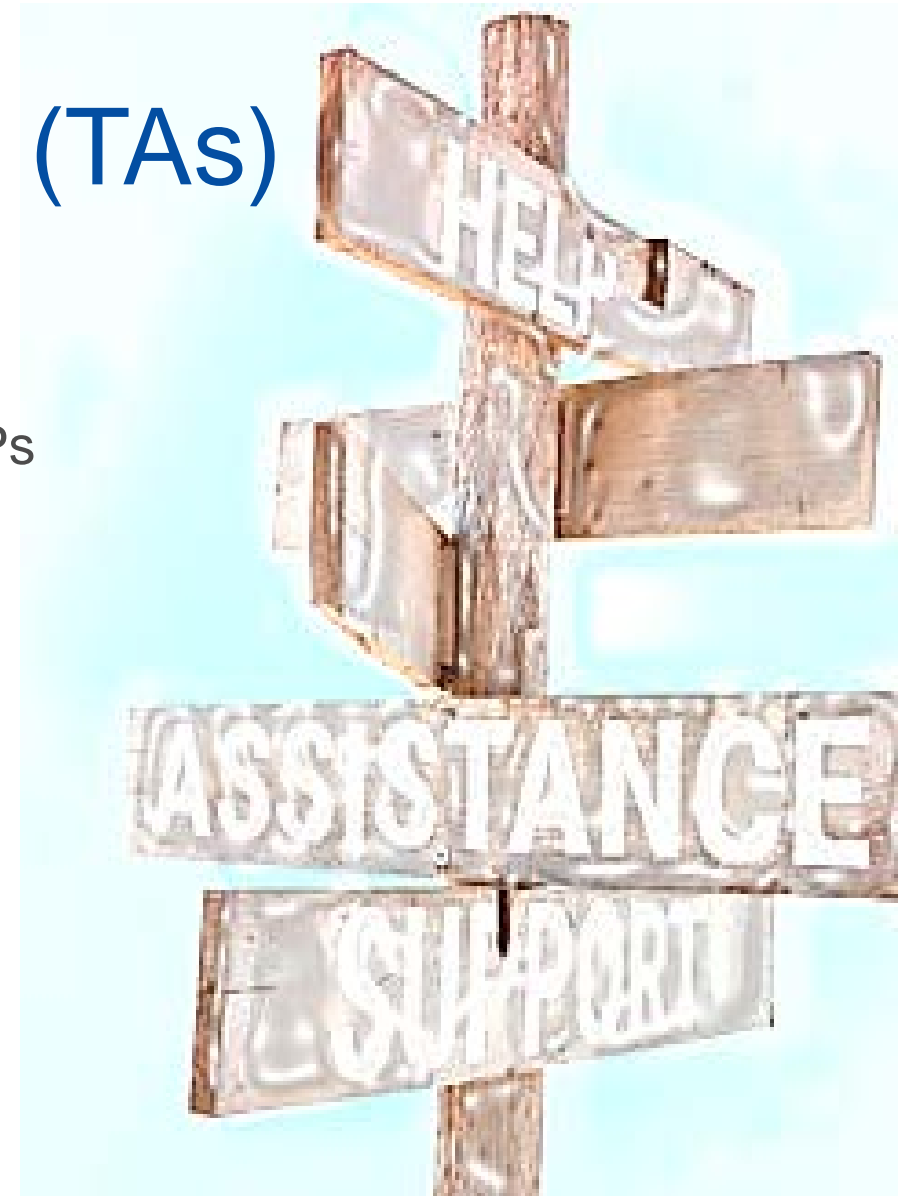


# Technical Assistance Projects (TAs)

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

- TA-PP: Support to the Preparation of SNAPs and SIPs
- TA-R: Technical Assistance for Replication

One stage application procedure



# Technical Assistance Projects (TA-PP)

TA-PP: support to the preparation of **SNaPs** and **SIPs** (TA-PP)

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



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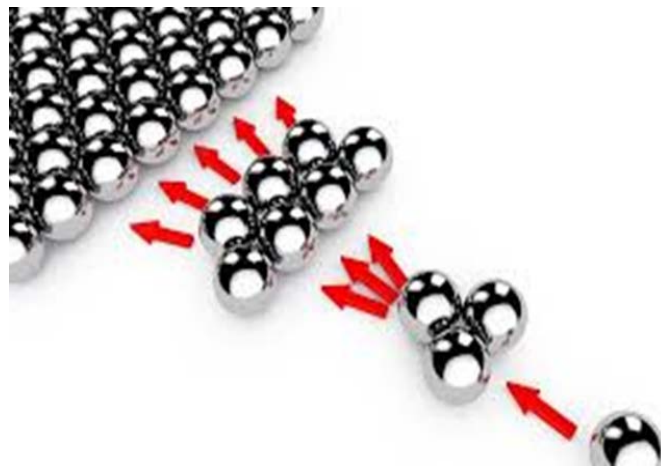
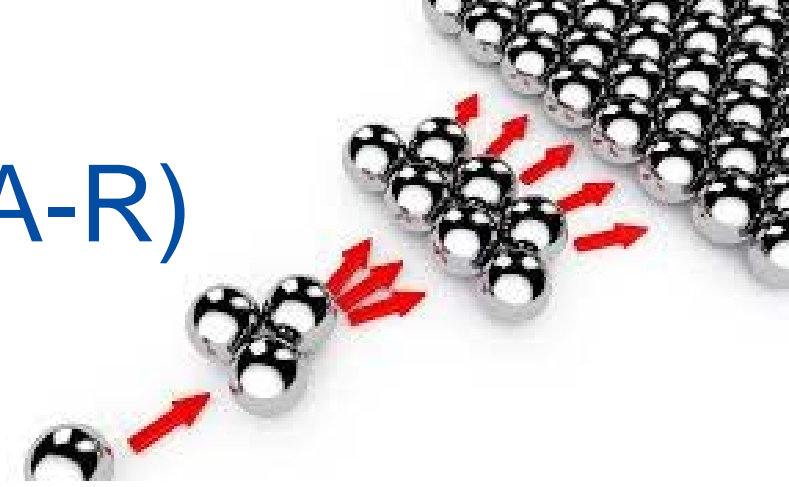


# Technical Assistance Projects (TA-R)

## TA-R: LIFE Technical Assistance for Replication

**NEW**

- 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
- For the [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€

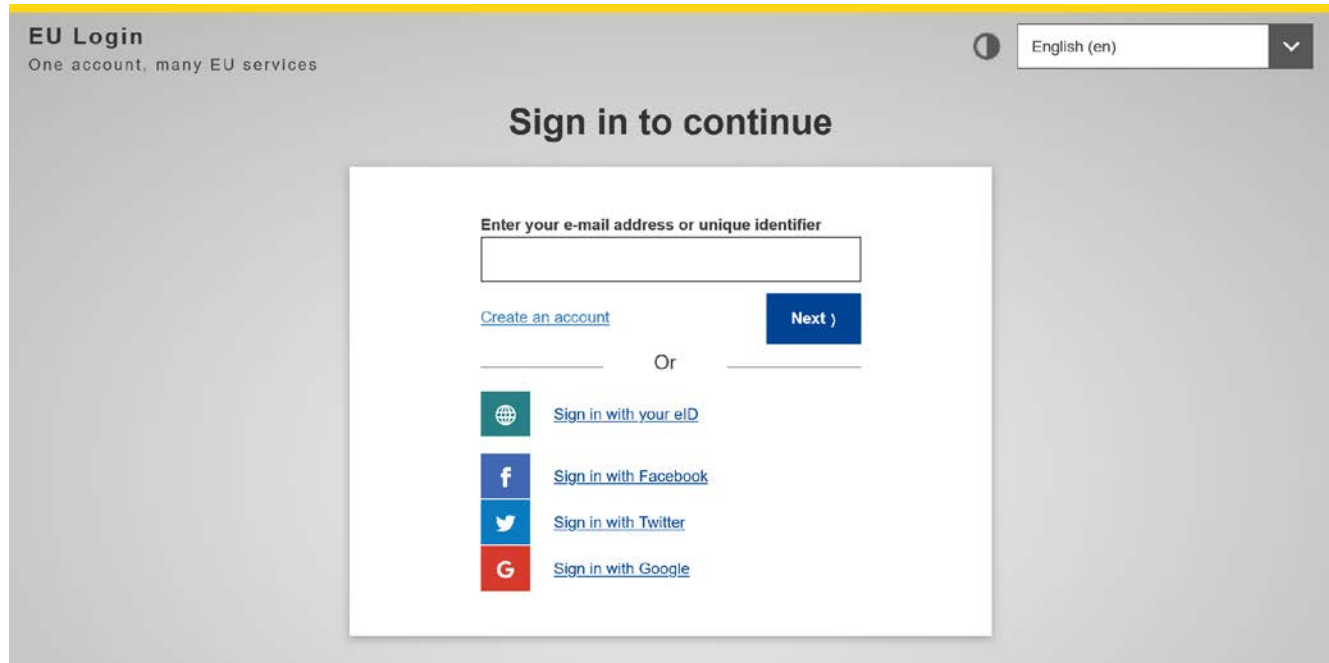


# Key Challenges



- There is **significant competition** for LIFE funds
- New **IT environment** and **applications forms**
- Proposals that **fail are either poorly prepared** or simply with **limited ambition or risk taking**
- But: Key to success is always the same!

# How does Funding & Tenders Portal work?



The screenshot shows the 'EU Login' interface. At the top left, it says 'EU Login' and 'One account, many EU services'. At the top right, there is a language selector set to 'English (en)'. The main heading is 'Sign in to continue'. Below this is a white box containing a form. The form has a text input field labeled 'Enter your e-mail address or unique identifier'. Below the input field are two links: 'Create an account' and 'Next >'. Below these links is the word 'Or' centered between two horizontal lines. Underneath are four social media and eID login options, each with a small icon and a link: 'Sign in with your eID' (globe icon), 'Sign in with Facebook' (Facebook 'f' icon), 'Sign in with Twitter' (Twitter bird icon), and 'Sign in with Google' (Google 'G' icon).

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/cas/login?>



# How does Funding & Tenders Portal work?

The screenshot shows the European Commission Funding & Tenders Portal. A red circle highlights the 'SEARCH FUNDING & TENDERS' button in the top navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'Funding & tender opportunities' and the subtitle is 'Single Electronic Data Interchange Area (SEDIA)'. The main content area is titled 'Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)'. On the left, there is a search filter sidebar with a search bar, checkboxes for 'Match whole words only', 'GRANTS', and 'TENDERS', and sections for 'Submission status' (Forthcoming, Open for submission, Closed (3)), 'Programming period' (Select a Programme period...), and 'Filter by call' (LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA (3)). The main results area is titled 'Funding and tenders (3)' and lists three projects:

Project Title	Programme	Type of action	Opening date	Status	Deadline model	Deadline date
Climate Change Mitigation LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA-CCM	Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)	LIFE Project Grants	13 July 2021	Closed	single-stage	30 November 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time
Climate Change Adaptation LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA-CCA	Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)	LIFE Project Grants	13 July 2021	Closed	single-stage	30 November 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time
Climate Governance and Information LIFE-2021-SAP-CLIMA-GOV	Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)	LIFE Project Grants	13 July 2021	Closed	single-stage	30 November 2021 17:00:00 Brussels time



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European Commission

# How does Funding & Tenders Portal work?

The screenshot shows the 'Funding & tender opportunities' page for the 'Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)'. The 'SUPPORT' menu is highlighted with a red circle, containing the following items: Support overview, Guidance & Manuals, FAQ, Helpdesk & Support Services, and Support videos. Below the menu, there is a 'Helpdesk & Support Services' section with a notification about COVID-19 measures. On the left, there are filters for 'GRANTS' and 'TENDERS', a 'Programming period' dropdown set to '2021-2027', and a 'Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)' tag. On the right, there are three service cards: 'IT Helpdesk', 'Europe Direct', and 'Research Enquiry Service'.



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# Keep in touch with us



30 years of bringing green ideas to LIFE

## Thank you



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