

## **LIFE Programme**

**Sub-programme "Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation"** 

■ Call: LIFE Subprogramme Climate Action (LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA)

## Table of topics open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	Deadline
Climate Change Mitigation - <u>LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA-CCM</u>	€ 28 000 000	
Climate Change Adaptation - <u>LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA-CCA</u>	€ 28 000 000	23 September 2025
Climate Governance and Information - <u>LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA-GOV</u>	€ 5 500 000	

Sub-programme "Circular Economy and Quality of Life"

■ Call: Circular Economy and Quality of Life - Standard Action Projects (SAP) (<u>LIFE-2025-SAP-ENV</u>)

## Table of topics open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	Deadline
Circular Economy and Zero Pollution - <u>LIFE-2025-SAP-ENV-ENVIRONMENT</u>	€ 77 000 000 (of which € 4 000 000 for Bauhaus subtopic)	23 September
Environment governance - <u>LIFE-2025-SAP-ENV-GOV</u>	€ 4 000 000	2025



## Sub-programme "Nature and Biodiversity"

Call: Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP) (<u>LIFE-2025-SAP-NAT</u>)

### Table of topics open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	Deadline
Nature and Biodiversity - <u>LIFE-2025-SAP-NAT-NATURE</u>	€ 153 000 000	23 September
Nature Governance and Information - <u>LIFE-2025-SAP-NAT-GOV</u>	€ 3 500 000	2025

## LIFE Technical Assistance Project Grants (TA PP)

■ Call: LIFE Technical Assistance for Replication (<u>LIFE-2025-TA-R</u>)

## Table of topic open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	Deadline
Technical Assistance -Replication - Nature & Biodiversity and Circular Economy & Quality of Life - LIFE-2025-TA-R- NAT- ENV	€ 6 500 000	23 September 2025



### **LIFE Strategic Projects**

Call: Strategic Nature and Integrated Projects (SNaP/SIP) (<u>LIFE-2025-STRAT-two-stage</u>)

## Table of topics open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	<b>Deadlines</b>
Strategic Nature Projects - <u>LIFE-2025-STRAT-NAT-SNaP-two-stage</u>	€ 72 000 000	concept note:
Strategic Integrated Projects - Environment <u>- LIFE-2025-STRAT-ENV-SIP-two-stage</u>	€ 56 000 000	4 September 2025  full proposal: 5 March 2026
Strategic Integrated Projects - Climate Action - LIFE-2025-STRAT-CLIMA-SIP-two-stage	€ 30 000 000	3 March 2020

Sub-programme "Circular Economy and Quality of LIFE in the sub-programme "Nature and Biodiversity"

LIFE Preparatory Projects

Call: LIFE Projects for addressing ad hoc Legislative and Policy priorities (PLP) (<u>LIFE-2025-PLP</u>)

### Table of topic open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	Deadline
Projects on Legislative and Policy Priorities in the field of Clean Energy Transition - <u>LIFE-2025-PLP-ENER</u>	€ 2 000 000	23 September 2025
Projects on Legislative and Policy Priorities in the fields of Nature & Biodiversity and Circular Economy & Quality of Life <u>- LIFE-2025-PLP-NAT-ENV</u>	€ 11 800 000	23 September 2025
Projects on Legislative and Policy Priorities (PLP) for the green transition in Urban spaces - <u>LIFE-2025-PLP-URBAN</u>	€ 8 000 000	23 September 2025



## **LIFE Technical Assistance Project Grants (TA PP)**

■ Call: Technical Assistance for preparation of SNAPs/SIPs (<u>LIFE-2025-TA-PP</u>)

## Table of topics open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	Deadline
Technical Assistance preparation of SNAPs - <u>LIFE-2025-TA-PP-NAT-SNAP</u>	€ 500 000	
Technical Assistance preparation of ENV SIPs - LIFE-2025-TA-PP-ENV-SIP	€ 300 000	23 September 2025
Technical Assistance preparation of CLIMA SIPs - LIFE-2025-TA-PP-CLIMA-SIP	€ 200 000	

## **Sub-programme "Clean Energy Transition"**

• Call: LIFE Clean Energy Transition (<u>LIFE-2025-CET</u>)

## Table of topics open for the submission of proposals

Topic title and ID	Budget	Deadline
Boosting the clean energy transition in cities and regions - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-LOCAL</u>	€ 7 000 000	
Towards an effective implementation of key legislation in the field of sustainable energy Towards an effective implementation of key legislation in the field of sustainable energy - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-POLICY</u>	€ 4 000 000	
Energy renovation solutions - Making buildings' renovation faster, deeper, affordable, smarter, service- and datadriven - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-BETTERRENO</u>	€ 6 000 000	23 September 2025
Supporting the clean energy transition of European industry and businesses - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-INDUSTRY</u>	€ 9 000 000	
National Platforms on energy efficiency skills for the clean energy transition - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-BUILDSKILLS</u>	€ 6 000 000	



Supporting district heating and cooling networks - LIFE-2025-CET-DHC	€ 6 000 000	
Crowding in private finance - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-PRIVAFIN</u>	€ 7 000 000	
One-Stop-Shops - Integrated services for clean energy transition in buildings - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-OSS</u>	€ 10 000 000	
Project Development Assistance for sustainable energy investments - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-PDA</u>	€ 8 400 000	
European City Facility - Supporting cities to develop investment plans for the clean energy transition - LIFE-2025-CET-EUCF	€ 15 000 000	
Alleviating household energy poverty in Europe - LIFE-2025-CET-ENERPOV	€ 6 000 000	
Support services for energy communities - <u>LIFE-2025-CET-ENERCOM</u>	€ 7 000 000	



### **Short description of topics**

Sub-programme "Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation"

Call: LIFE Subprogramme Climate Action (LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA)

### Climate Change Mitigation (SAP) - LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA-CCM

Projects (Standard Action Projects) (SAPs) under the Climate Change Mitigation Priority Area will support the implementation of the European Green Deal by contributing to the objectives and targets set out in the EU Climate Law and to the intermediate Union climate target to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% compared to 1990 levels by 2030.

The areas of intervention of the topic are:

- Recovery, recycling and reclamation of ozone-depleting substances in foams and suitability of alternatives to fluorinated greenhouse gases and their recovery, reclamation and recycling
- Actions to support the shift to zero-emission mobility in road transport
- Decarbonising other transport modes, fostering intermodality and modal shift
- Increase the generation and use of renewable energy and improvement of energy efficiency
- Actions which reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in industrial production and waste management
- Development and implementation of land and coastal management practices which have an impact on emissions and carbon removals, including the conservation and enhancement of natural carbon sinks in soils and forests and the storage of carbon in long-lasting products
- Industrial solutions for carbon removal, carbon capture and use and/or storage

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  1 000 000 -  $\in$  5 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 12. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 11).

### Climate Change Adaptation - LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA-CCA

Projects (Standard Action Projects) under this priority area should help to ensure continuous progress in enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, as required by Article 5 of the <u>European Climate Law</u>, achieve the long-term vision of the <u>EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change</u> that, in 2050, the EU will be a climate-resilient society which is fully adapted to the unavoidable impacts of climate change, reduce the vulnerability to the risks described in the European Climate Risk Assessment and address principles mentioned in the Commission's Communication on managing climate risks.

Specifically, projects under this call should support the strategy's objective to:



- make adaptation smarter and notably provide tools to empower risk owners (robust data and risk assessment tools that are available to all; tools that allow to assess adaptation options and facilitate decision making and other recent climate risks and vulnerability assessments carried out at national, regional and local level to encourage applicants to actually make use of available data and studies to justify their intervention logic and site selection);
- make adaptation more systemic and improve governance (incorporating climate resilience considerations in all relevant policy fields, improve spatial planning, embed climate risks in planning and maintaining critical infrastructure);
- make adaptation faster (developing and rolling out adaptation solutions that allow us to adapt more quickly and comprehensively).

Furthermore, projects should take care to **avoid maladaptation**, i.e. adaptation actions or practices aimed at a group of people and that actually make them more vulnerable to climate change.

The areas of intervention of the topic are:

- Support the development of climate adaptation policies and the revision of national, regional or local climate adaptation strategies and plans
- Implementing state-of-the art tools for climate risk assessment or selection of cost-effective adaptation measures for dealing with climate threats and solutions for adaptation
- Development and implementation of nature-based solutions for different types of areas (rural, urban and coastal)
- Climate-proofing and resilience of infrastructure and buildings
- Adaptation solutions for agriculture and forestry
- Water management
- Climate adaptation and health
- Preparedness for compound risks and cascading risks
- Financial instruments, innovative solutions and public private collaboration on insurance and loss data

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  1 000 000 -  $\in$  5 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 12. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 20).

#### Climate Governance and Information - LIFE-2025-SAP-CLIMA-GOV

This topic supports the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of the Union legislation and policy on climate change, contributing to climate change mitigation and/or adaptation. This includes improving governance through enhancing the capacities of public and private actors and the involvement of civil society. The present call topic targets Standard Action Projects.



Activities for the sole purpose of raising the awareness of certain groups are deemed insufficient to achieve these objectives, and therefore should be complemented with concrete measures that facilitate a change in behaviour or practices. Projects which aim to develop tools or studies must include specific and concrete action to implement these tools and studies during the duration of the project.

The areas of intervention of the topic are:

- Raising awareness, incentivising behavioural change and supporting the activities of the European Climate Pact
- Green skills & capacity building to implement climate mitigation and adaptation policies
- Building capacity, raising awareness among end-users and the equipment distribution chain of fluorinated greenhouse gases
- Support to the development, update and implementation of national, regional or local climate and energy strategies and plans
- Activities linked to the development and implementation of Sustainable Finance actions
- Greenhouse gas emission monitoring and reporting
- Development of geographically-explicit inventories for the LULUCF sector, creation of carbon removal registries and certification schemes and organisation of capacity building activities and advisory services
- Knowledge-sharing and capacity building on the functioning of the EU ETS
- Climate policy monitoring, assessment and ex-post evaluation

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  700 000 -  $\in$  2 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 4. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 27).

### Sub-programme "Circular Economy and Quality of Life"

Call: Circular Economy and Quality of Life - Standard Action Projects (SAP) (<u>LIFE-2025-SAP-ENV</u>)

### Circular Economy and Zero Pollution LIFE-2025-SAP-ENV-ENVIRONMENT

The aim of this topic is to facilitate the transition toward a sustainable, circular, energy-efficient and climate-resilient economy, a toxic-free environment and at protecting, restoring and improving the quality of the environment in line with the European Green Deal and recent policy developments.

The specific objective is to cover one or more of the following topics:

- 1. Circular Economy and Waste
- 1.1. Recovery of Resources from Waste
- 1.2. Circular Economy and the Environment
- 2. Zero pollution and sustainable management of natural resources



Air

- 2.1. Air
- 2.2. Water
- 2.3. Soil
- 2.4. Noise
- 2.5. Chemicals
- 2.6. Industrial Emissions and Safety
- 2.7. A new European Bauhaus Water

The present Call topic targets Standard Action Projects (SAP) aimed at achieving the objectives of the Circular Economy and Quality of Life sub-programme. SAP are defined in section 2 of the <u>call document</u> (Type of Action) while the general objectives of the sub-programme in section 1 ('Circular Economy and Quality of Life').

More specific details about the proposed scope of projects under each of the above topics can be found in the topic description in the call document.

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\le 2\,000\,000 - \le 10\,000\,000$  and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 30. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 13).

### **Environment governance - LIFE-2025-SAP-ENV-GOV**

The aim of the topic is to facilitate the transition toward a sustainable, circular, energy-efficient and climate-resilient economy, a toxic-free environment and at protecting, restoring and improving the quality of the environment in line with the European Green Deal and recent policy developments.

The specific objective is to cover one or more of the following topics:

- Activities in support of public administrations' decision-making and voluntary approaches for the public and the private sector.
- Environmental compliance assurance and access to justice.
- Behavioral change and awareness-raising initiatives.

More specific details about the proposed scope of projects under each of the above topics can be found in the topic description in the call document.

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  700 000 -  $\in$  2 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 3-4. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 28).



### Sub-programme "Nature and Biodiversity"

Call: Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP) (LIFE-2025-SAP-NAT)

### Nature and Biodiversity - LIFE-2025-SAP-NAT-NATURE

Under this topic, projects shall lead to a smart and outcome-based implementation of the EU nature and biodiversity legislation and the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030. Only wild flora and fauna and natural and semi-natural habitats may be targeted. They shall fall under at least <u>one</u> of the <u>two</u> following areas of intervention:

- "Space for Nature" Any project aimed at improving the condition of species or habitats through area-based conservation or restoration measures falls within the eligible scope of the intervention area "Space for Nature".
- "Safeguarding our species" Any project aimed at improving the condition of species (or, in the case of invasive alien species, reducing their impact) through any relevant activities other than area-based conservation or restoration measures falls within the scope of the intervention area "Safeguarding our species".

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\le 2\,000\,000 - \le 13\,000\,000$  and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 30. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 11).

#### Nature Governanceand Information - LIFE-2025-SAP-NAT-GOV

Proposals shall lead to a smart and outcome-based implementation of the EU nature and biodiversity legislation. Projects should cover <u>one</u> or <u>more</u> of the following general objectives:

- Behavioural change and awareness-raising initiatives
- Compliance assurance, as well as public participation and access to justice (Aarhus Convention)

The scope of activities includes promoting good practices, supporting implementation, organising trainings, educational, academic programmes, etc. to ensure effective compliance assurance, as well as public participation and access to justice in nature and biodiversity policy and legislation-related matters amongst the public (including youth and future professionals), NGOs, lawyers, the judiciary, public administrations or other stakeholders with a view to improving knowledge, understanding and application of effective means of public participation and/or access to justice, with a particular focus on protecting nature and biodiversity via the nature, biodiversity, water and environmental liability instruments.

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  1 000 000 -  $\in$  2 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 3. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 25).



### **LIFE Technical Assistance Project Grants (TA R)**

Call: Technical Assistance for Replication (LIFE-2025-TA-R)

Technical Assistance - Replication - Nature & Biodiversity and Circular Economy & Quality of Life - LIFE-2025-TA-R- NAT- ENV

The objectives of Technical Assistance -Replication (TA-R) projects are to facilitate and enable the upscaling or replication of results achieved by projects funded under the LIFE programme or, funded under another EU programme provided that these results fulfil the objectives of the LIFE programme. Only proposals responding to the priorities of the sub-programmes 'Nature and Biodiversity' and/or 'Circular Economy and Quality of Life' will be eligible for this call.

The TA-R projects could co-finance the activities necessary:

- to enable and support the up-scaling and/or replication of the results from other projects funded by the LIFE Programme or by other Union programmes, and/or
- to facilitate the access of an operation to other financial instruments for the purpose of upscaling the results of a previous project which contribute to the objectives of the LIFE programme.

The ultimate aim shall be to concretely and substantially multiply the impacts of previous projects' solutions by mobilising a wider uptake or application.

In general, and amongst others, the activities should be clearly related to the objective(s) of the TA-R project and should be completed within the duration of the TAR project. Activities shall include one or a combination of the following:

- Assistance to substantially scale up and/or replicate under different conditions the results of successful projects (in eligible countries);
- Assistance to the removal of local/regional/national legislative or regulatory barriers that prevent the replication or the upscaling of finalised projects' results;
- Assistance to the removal of technical barriers that were not foreseen but emerged during a preceding project and which could not be solved during its duration despite their high relevance to the success and sustainability of the project's results;
- Facilitation of access to other EU or non-EU financial instruments (i.e., preparing and submitting applications) and leverage additional funding in line with the LIFE objectives (i.e., by incorporating schemes and measures developed or piloted by LIFE projects into other funding streams).

The maximum EU contribution is  $\in$  1 000 000 per project. The estimated number of projects to be funded is 6-12. The funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document.



### **LIFE Strategic Projects**

 Call: Strategic Nature and Integrated Projects (SNAP/SIP) - LIFE-2025-STRATtwo-stage

### Strategic Nature Projects - LIFE-2025-STRAT-NAT-SNaP-two-stage

The objective of a SNaP project is to support the achievement of EU nature and biodiversity objectives by implementing coherent programmes of action in Member States in order to mainstream those objectives and priorities into other policies and financing instruments. This will include the coordinated implementation of:

- Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAF) and/or
- National restoration plans pursuant to Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 of the European Parliament and the Council on nature restoration and;
- Other plans or strategies adopted at international, national, regional or multiregional level by nature and biodiversity authorities and intrinsically linked to the implementation of EU nature and/or biodiversity policy or legislation (biodiversity strategy, pollinators initiative, invasive alien species regulation) and which foresee specific and measurable actions, or targets, with a clear timeline and budget.

In this way, a SNaP project will support effective mainstreaming of nature and biodiversity objectives and priorities into other policies and financing instruments.

SNAPs should target the implementation of PAFs and/or the other Plans and Strategies. SNaP must include specific actions to mainstream the objectives of the targeted plan or plans into other policies and financing instruments.

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  10 000 000 -  $\in$  30 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 3 - 5. The maximum funding rate is 60%. The indicative expected project duration is 60 -120 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 10).

### Strategic Integrated Projects - Environment - LIFE-2025-STRAT-ENV-SIP-two-stage

Applicants should target the implementation of <u>one</u> of the following plans/strategies:

• **Circular Economy:** National or Regional Circular Economy Action Plans, Strategies, Roadmaps or similar, which are officially approved, and which include specific and measurable actions, or targets, with a clear timeline and are in line with or complement the objectives of the EU Circular Economy Action Plan and, when relevant of the Bioeconomy Strategy.



- Waste: National and regional Waste Management Plans (WMPs) pursuant to Article 28 of the Waste Framework Directive and/or Waste Prevention Programmes (WPPs) as requested by Article 29 of the EU Waste Framework Directive.
- **River** basin management plans (RBMPs) pursuant to Annex VII to the EU Water Framework Directive, Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) pursuant to the EU Floods Directive, Marine Strategies pursuant to the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Drought Management Plans as suggested by Article 13 (5) of the Water Framework Directive.
- **Air** quality plans pursuant to the EU Ambient Air Quality Directive, National Air Pollution Control Programmes pursuant to the EU National Emission Reduction Commitments Directive
- Noise: Noise action plans pursuant to the EU Environmental Noise Directive

The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  10 000 000 -  $\in$  30 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 3 - 4. The maximum funding rate is 60%. The indicative expected project duration is 60 -120 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 21).

### Strategic Integrated Projects - Climate Action - LIFE-2025-STRAT-CLIMA-SIP-two-stage

Applicants should target the implementation of one of the following plans/strategies:

- Final National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP) and Long-Term Strategies (LTS) pursuant to Regulation on the governance of the energy union and climate action (EU) 2018/1999.
- National adaptation strategies and plans pursuant to Article 5 of the Regulation 2021/1119 ('European Climate Law'), 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, including climate-neutral cities plans and actions, for instance in the context of the EU Mission 'Climate neutral and smart cities' and Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans.
- National, regional or industry-/sector-specific greenhouse gas mitigation strategies or roadmaps contributing to climate neutrality.

Climate change adaptation SIPs should help achieve the objectives of Article 5 of the European Climate Law or the EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change contributing to address the climate-risks identified in the Communication on Managing Climate Risks. SIPs should support the implementation of national climate change adaptation strategies or plans, as required under the European Climate Law, or comparable regional, multi-regional or transnational strategies and plans. More specifically, they are expected to select and implement a clearly defined set of actions in the corresponding adaptation strategy or plan, which are to be financed by LIFE.



The indicative range of project budgets is  $\in$  10 000 000 -  $\in$  25 000 000 and the estimated number of projects to be funded is 2 - 3. The maximum funding rate is 60%. The indicative expected project duration is 60 -120 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 32).

### **LIFE Preparatory Projects**

 Call: LIFE Projects addressing ad hoc Legislative and Policy priorities (PLP) (LIFE-2025-PLP)

Projects on Legislative and Policy Priorities in the field of Clean Energy Transition - LIFE-2025-PLP-ENER

Proposed projects under this topic shall aim to address the following specific needs identified by the Member States in the sub programme Clean Energy Transition.

1. Real world energy consumption of energy-related products

### **Sub-Programme Clean Energy Transition**

This topic aims to improve understanding of the actual impacts of EU Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Regulations and facilitate the implementation of related test methods that reflect better product use in real life, in terms of energy consumption and, when appropriate, pollutant emissions. In addition, actual energy consumption data would inform on the one hand future reviews of ecodesign and energy labelling rules, while providing added value for preparatory studies. On the other hand, it would also contribute to improving the ecodesign impact accounting model utilised for reporting the impacts of these rules.

Proposals should set-up and implement in-situ measurement campaigns to capture the actual energy consumption, or energy efficiency where relevant, in EU households and to better understand the determinants of energy use for the selected products. Data collected should be statistically analysed and policy recommendations formulated on the related EU ecodesign and energy labelling rules, calculation methods and standards. Proposals should build on relevant studies, including on the recommendations from the JRC technical report.

The following aspects should be taken into account for the measurement campaigns:

• **Product selection:** while multi-product monitoring would be preferable, an appropriate balance should be sought between the number of samples, geographical focus and the range of products selected. Priority should be placed on products which are simple to measure and relevant for policymaking, including displays, household refrigerators and cooking appliances, considering also their expected overall energy consumption. Monitoring instruments of adequate precision should be installed, but the use of existing and embedded meters would be also possible, if their precision is known or can be established.



- Sample and geographic focus: a representative sample and a good geographical spread among EU Member States should be ensured; depending on the products selected, different climatic zones, socio-economic, cultural, and other aspects should be considered.
- **Duration:** 36 months (indicatively), based on relevant criteria, including the intrusive character of testing from the household's perspective, the effect of seasonality on products considered, cost/benefit, the possibility to rotate monitoring among households etc.
- Appropriate determinants influencing energy use of the selected products should be investigated (e.g. thermostat settings of a refrigerator, functions aiming to optimise consumption) and other relevant data should be collected, such as the model identifier, energy class and corresponding product information (e.g. information sheet, technical documentation), as applicable.

Particular attention should be paid to ensuring a sufficient household engagement and retention, including to factors that could influence this, such as the type of products selected (e.g. plug-in domestic appliances compared to other products requiring expert installation), data protection issues etc.

Proposals should involve a consortium with multidisciplinary expertise and resources, including on technical aspects (e.g. installing equipment, with remote accessibility, and capacity to tackle on-site issues, such as malfunctions), household engagement, statistical evaluation.

Relevant stakeholders necessary for the successful implementation of the action should be involved, including consumer or other relevant civil society organisations at the European or national level. Access to experts with technical knowledge on the concerned products, regulations and standards as well as the wider legal framework will be necessary.

Proposals must be submitted by at least 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is up to  $\le 2\,000\,000$  and the funding rate is 90%. The estimated number of projects to be funded is 1 under this topic. The expected project duration is 36 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 12).



# Projects on Legislative and Policy Priorities in the fields of Nature & Biodiversity and Circular Economy & Quality of Life-LIFE-2025-PLP-NAT-ENV

The proposed **7 specific priorities** under this topic shall aim to address the following specific needs identified by the Member States in the sub programme Circular Economy and Quality of Life and in the sub-programme Nature and Biodiversity. The contracting authority expects to award only 1 proposal per specific priority.

### 1. Strengthening foresters' skills in biodiversity friendly forest management

### **Sub-Programme: Nature & Biodiversity**

The main objective of this project is to strengthen foresters' skills and expertise in biodiversity friendly forest management practices in line with the EU Forest Strategy for 2030. Furthermore, the project shall promote the uptake of the Commission guidelines on biodiversity friendly forest management practices that published in 2023 and support the application of biodiversity friendly forest management practices to enhance forest biodiversity in line with the Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR).

The activities that can be funded are the following:

- A preliminary identification of training needs among relevant actors on biodiversity friendly forest management, at national or regional scale, in line with the EU's forest biodiversity ambitions;
- Based on the identification of training needs: the organisation and execution of trainings including through field trips and courses (online or in-person); and the preparation and distribution of training manuals in English, French, and German.

The applicant must be either forest agencies, administrations and/or forest organisations covering directly and/or through their membership at least two - third of the EU Member States.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is  $\in$  1 000 000 and the funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is 36 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 15).

2. New European Bauhaus - Supporting local strategies for an efficient and balanced use of space towards sustainable, beautiful and inclusive neighbourhoods.

**Sub-Programme: Environment** 

This call aims to showcase with examples and data that would help confirm the conclusions of the report on "Sufficiency in the building sector – for the EU Whole Life Carbon" and demonstrate ways forward that can be replicated in other areas of the EU and beyond. This call is made in synergy with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) initiative and will contribute to the Roll-Out component of the NEB Facility. It is also relevant in the context of the Affordable Housing



initiative. The outcomes of the call will be relevant in the context of the European Green Deal, as well as for future calls under Cohesion Policy and Recovery and Resilience Facilities type instrument.

The plans should identify projects and present their intervention logic, expected impacts, the stakeholders to be involved and credible pathways for their financing and implementation. The proposed project would support carrying out comprehensive architectural and technical assessments for adaptability and land optimization, as well as activities that promote replication, demonstration, and transferability of project results results at larger scale.

The concrete output of the project would be a report including four qualitative, place-based tested transformation strategies following the values and principles of the New European Bauhaus, a pilot demonstration, a transferable and replicable methodology to other medium-size municipalities; as well as an improvement of the capacities of the relevant actors involved, eventually through training offers that can be further shared with other project developers.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is  $\in$  4 000 000 and the funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is 24 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 18).

3. Strengthening the fight against environmental crime in the EU and supporting the implementation of the new Environmental Crime Directive

**Sub-Programme: Environment** 

The relevant objectives under this call include developing and establishing tools for enhancing specialisation, cooperation and communication between all the competent authorities within and between Member States involved in enforcement of environmental crime legislation.

The list of activities and outputs to deliver under the project are described below. The project **must** include the following activities:

- Preparing training materials targeting enforcers specialised in preventing and combatting
  environmental crime (e.g., investigators, police officers, prosecutors and judges). The
  training materials shall target various actors of the enforcement chain in addressing the
  complexities of environmental crime; the training materials may provide general
  information on existing as well as new practices on combatting environmental crime.
- Preparing a guidance document on factors to be considered for assessing individual crime categories covered by the new Environmental Crime Directive such as on whether the damage or likely damage is substantial, whether the conduct is likely to cause damage, and whether a quantity is negligible or non-negligible, as set out respectively in Article 3(6), Article 3(7) and Article 3(8) of the new Environmental Crime Directive.



Preparing and providing a set of methodologies and / or tools to support the Member States'
competent authorities to collect the statistical data as set out in Article 22 of the new
Environmental Crime Directive.

Furthermore, the project must also cover at least 3 of the following activities, to the applicants' choice:

- Organising and delivering trainings to enforcers specialized in preventing and combatting environmental crime (e.g., investigators, police officers, prosecutors and judges) by using the training materials prepared under previous point (a), in support to competent authorities according to the Article 18 of the new Environmental Crime Directive.
- Analysing the effectiveness of existing investigative tools, including the methodologies for their use, for combatting environmental crime in relation to Article 13 of the new Environmental Crime Directive.
- Developing new practical investigative tools for environmental criminal offences (both on detection and investigation) in view of supporting competent authorities in relation to Article 13 of the new Environmental Crime Directive.
- Preparing a guidance on earth observation techniques and other newest technologies (e.g. AI) for preventing and combatting individual environmental crime categories covered by the new Environmental Crime Directive, and ensuring compliance with EU environmental law
- Preparing guidance in support to competent authorities on defining and differentiating the scope of administrative and criminal law enforcement measures regarding environmental offences.
- Organising workshops or conferences on supporting the implementation of the new Environmental Crime Directive or on combatting environmental crime overall, to identify and share best practices and useful information.

This project is expected to contribute to the fight against environmental crime in the EU producing concrete results in the work of enforcers and to support the implementation of the new Environmental Crime Directive. In specific, the project is expected to generate significant improvements in the detection, investigation, prosecution, and prevention of environmental crimes, directly contributing to the implementation of the new Environmental Crime Directive.

The consortium may include EU networks of environmental practitioners, for example networks of prosecutors, inspectors, judges, police and other enforcement officers; competent authorities from EU Member States including at local level, private sector entities, universities and other academic institutions, and environmental NGOs.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is  $\in$  1 500 000 and the funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is 30 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 21).



4. Participation of consumer organisations and environmental NGOs in the implementation of the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)

**Sub-Programme: Circular Economy and Quality of LIFE** 

The objective of the proposed project is **twofold:** First, to ensure that the views of European consumer organisations and environmental NGOs are well represented in the preparatory process leading to developing delegated acts for ecodesign requirements and implementing acts, under the new Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR). Second, the proposed project will also cover standardisation activities related to ESPR product groups, including standardisation activities related to ecodesign and energy labelling. In particular, this will be achieved by participating and contributing to the standardisation groups and processes, ensuring transparency, consideration of the interests of civil society, understanding and challenging the industrial interests.

The first strand of work involves identifying, elaborating, and channelling the contribution of consumer and environmental NGOs and other non-profit organisations to the preparatory work on ESPR implementation. This second strand of work will be a follow-up to the abovementioned project <u>LIFE22-PLP-reaLIFEstandards</u>.

The second strand of work involves the following: monitoring of (i) horizontal and product specific standardisation activities related to eco-design, energy labelling, and (ii) other standardisation activities related to ESPR product groups, Participation in and contributions to the Technical Committees and related Working Groups in the European and International Standardisation Organisations at different levels of the standardisation process, the deliverables will include regular progress reports, research reports, position papers, compatibility analyses, input into standardisation requests, guidelines, etc, Ideally, a joint participation of environmental and consumer NGOs is desired to ensure due consideration of both environmental and wider consumer and end-user perspectives,

Proposals should include indicators which are specific to the proposed activities. The results and impacts at project end should be quantified and verifiable to the extent possible.

Applicant must be a single NGO /non-profit organisation or a consortium of NGOs and non-profit organisations, covering through their membership at least two- thirds of the EU Member States in the field of European consumer organisations and/or environmental NGOs

The maximum EU contribution to a project is  $\in$  3 000 000 and the funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is 36 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 25).



5. Capacity building on results-based payment schemes for the restoration of biodiversity in agricultural landscapes and implementation of the Nature Restoration

### **Sub-Programme Nature and Biodiversity**

This proposed project will establish a peer-to-peer network, connecting public authorities, experts and practitioners from all Member States with a different level of experience in setting up Results-Based Payment Schemes (RBPS). It will support Member States in setting up, piloting, monitoring, and evaluating their own RBPS by taking stock of existing schemes and bringing together environmental and agricultural authorities (including CAP managing authorities and paying agencies), biodiversity experts, farmers and other land managers, and farm advisors.

The project should leverage Knowledge and Innovation Systems (e.g. AKIS) to enhance the dissemination of best practices in the implementation of results-based payment schemes. The project will also organise **seminars**, **workshops**, **and field trips to** successful demonstration RBPS sites. The project will undertake **surveys** with farmers in participating Member States to identify their interest and financial needs to implement the schemes on the ground.

The aim is to build capacities for and facilitate the development and future implementation of RBPS for biodiversity on farmland in all Member States, in particular in those that do not yet have experience in this regard.

Applying consortia shall include at least 2 entities from EU member states that have been involved in setting up and managing RBPS at national or regional level across different Member States. Those entities might be public agencies, and/or public authorities, and/or well as research bodies.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is  $\in$  1 000 000 and the funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is 24 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 30).

6. Support for Circular Business Model Mainstreaming - Boosting the single market for sustainable products and services

**Sub-Programme: Circular Economy and quality of life** 

The <u>Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)</u> is the cornerstone of the European Commission's approach to more environmentally sustainable and circular products. Products and the way we use them can significantly impact the environment.



Activities expected under this project are listed below:

### • Knowledge creation and sharing:

- Efficiently collect and analyse existing knowledge (such as best practices, CBM theory, enablers and barriers to CBMs) and develop new content (such as sectoral guidance, checklists, tools) for SMEs, microenterprises and small mid-caps to help them become more circular.
- Efficiently collect and curate (including via digital tools/data scraping) CBM theory and best practices and translate the theory into practical, easy-to-use guidance for businesses and business support organisation to share e.g. in presentations, guidelines, or tools and make them available free of charge including via existing platforms/networks such as the European Cluster Collaboration Platform or the EU Circular Economy stakeholder platform.
- Pilot sector demonstrations: Gather tangible examples from selected pilot sectors such
  as furniture or textiles and utilise them to generate usable step-by-step analysis and targeted
  recommendations to guide companies in adopting CBMs identifying viable circular
  approaches and successfully transforming their business model or products to become more
  circular.

### • Capacity building and advisory support:

- Develop, deliver and fine-tune training and provide practical hands-on guidance (checklists, information materials, tools) to support the identification/creation of and successful transition to CBMs including targeted approaches for SMEs, SMCs and microenterprises and 'train-the-trainers'.
- Organise training for EEN sustainability advisers in EEN hubs towards on-the-ground training/targeted business advisory on circular business model creation/identification as well as uptake/transformation
- **Networking and outreach:** Identify useful networks, hubs, sector organisations and other intermediaries that could further expand outreach and spread the information and tools developed within relevant sectors/economic operators in addition to EEN, ECESP or the ECCP.
- **Feedback and impact assessment:** Utilise the piloting work/advisory role of EEN or other multipliers to get structured feedback from business, in particular SMEs, microenterprises and SMCs on barriers, concerns and challenges related to circular transitions. Develop project indicators to measure progress

Applicants/Consortia are expected to have a broad and representative geographical as well as sectorial reach capturing also national, regional or sectoral differences in awareness/uptake of circular business models/players involved as well as individual support needs based on such differences.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is € 600 000. The funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is between 30 and 36 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 32).



# 7. Climate Proof Pollution Alert model: relevant for the Water Resilience Strategy and Zero Pollution geared to transboundary cooperation on water pollution incidents

### **Sub-Programme Circular Economy and quality of life**

This project aims to support transboundary cooperation in the sensitive field of water pollution in order to prevent as much as possible small incidents having big impacts and to facilitate the transboundary communication and cooperation needed to stop or limit causes of water pollution as soon as possible.

The list of activities and outputs to deliver under the project:

- Development / procurement, installation and testing of Climate proof Pollution Alert Modelling and tracing system;
- Capacity building activities targeted to water authorities and related to the Climate proof Pollution Alert Model system principles and functioning;
- Dissemination of the Climate proof Pollution Alert Model and its functioning; d. Enabling of replication of the model in other Basins;
- information to interested water authorities, environmental protection organisations, drinking water companies etc in other European transboundary river basins;
- report on its functioning.

The action must build upon existing international cooperation and communication systems and provide the opportunity to enhance the existing systems with additional functionalities that will enable the mainstream of modelling and increase hydrological knowledge skills.

The expected main result is the setting up and implementation of a transboundary climate proof flow and real-time alert model, generating data and tracing of sources to support water authorities in case of incidental or peak concentration causing pollution. The system must enable water authorities to respond timely to incidents and prevent environmental accidents and provide the possibility to trace back sources of pollution, including in the main course of the river and its tributaries.

To be eligible, the consortium shall include partners from at least 3 different eligible countries and must include water authorities (or their grouping and associations) in charge of the management of River Basin Management Plans(which must include water bodies being part of the same transboundary/international water course) and established in at least one of the eligible countries.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is € 700 000. The funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is 24 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 37).



## Projects on Legislative and Policy Priorities (PLP) for the green transition in Urban spaces - LIFE-2025-PLP-URBAN

Proposed projects under this topic shall aim to address the following specific priority identified by the Member States.

This specific topic intends to support the green transition in urban spaces in a cross-sectoral and integrated way. It aims to bolster the capacity of urban local authorities to adopt **integrated approaches** and to unlock the potential of **interconnections between the various environmental, climate and energy** challenges existing at urban level and addressing them in a **cross-sectoral and integrated way** e.g. on circular economy, zero pollution, nature and biodiversity, clean energy transition and climate action.

Proposals should aim to deliver pilot projects, ambitious impactful integrated solutions and approaches, demonstrations of new technology, and/or support to uptake of integrated green technologies and/or innovative approaches to governance models. Proposals shall target <u>one</u> or <u>more challenge(s)</u> belonging to at least 2 of the three main fields of intervention of the LIFE Programme (Environment, Energy and Climate) AND addressing at least <u>3</u> of <u>6</u> thematic areas of intervention:

### Main field of Intervention: **ENVIRONMENT**

- 1. pollution (including air, water, soil pollution)
- 2. resource efficiency (including circular economy and waste management)
- 3. nature restoration and biodiversity

### Main field of Intervention: **ENERGY**

4. energy transition (including renewables, energy efficiency and/or clean heating and cooling)

### Main field of Intervention: CLIMATE

- 5. climate change mitigation
- 6. climate change adaptation.

Proposals must address cross-sectorial policy objectives and tackle several of the identified challenges simultaneously. The choice of the main fields of intervention - Environment, Energy, Climate (at least 2 out of 3) and of the thematic areas of intervention (at least 3 out of 6) must be indicated in the Abstract of the Application Form and must be explained.

Proposals shall be ambitious and of scale, demonstrate a significant degree of integration and demonstrate concrete activities with associated expected results and impacts, for a critical number of inhabitants. They shall demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the interlinkages between the targeted areas of intervention.

The project proposal should foresee a collaboration between the different actors necessary for the successful implementation of the proposed solution, e.g. municipal companies, public administrations, private companies, research and civil society organisations etc. Proposals



involving more than one municipality, from different eligible countries are particularly encouraged.

The projects expected results and impacts should showcase that deployment of integrated solutions to common EU environmental, climate and energy challenges can deliver more than the sum of sector-specific interventions. Results and impacts should be estimated in a quantitative way for each specific areas of intervention addressed by the project and of any other co-benefits. The use of compounded indicators at the urban level can also be envisaged.

The coordinator beneficiary must be a local authority or a grouping of local authorities.

The contracting authority expects to award between 3 to 4 grants under this topic. The maximum EU contribution to a project is € 8 000 000. The funding rate is 90%. The expected project duration is between 36 to 60 months.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 39).

### **LIFE Technical Assistance Project Grants (TA PP)**

Call: Technical Assistance for preparation of SIPs /SNAPs/ (LIFE-2025-TA-PP)

### Technical Assistance preparation of SNAPs - LIFE-2025-TA-PP-NAT-SNAP

The objective of this topic is the preparation of Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPs), with aim at the implementation of the PAFs (Prioritised Action Frameworks) and; other plans or strategies adopted at international, national, regional or multiregional level by nature and biodiversity authorities and intrinsically linked to the implementation of EU nature and/or biodiversity policy or legislation and which foresee specific and measurable actions, or targets, with a clear timeline and budget. They cover large territorial scale, involve all concerned stakeholders and include a coordination mechanism for funding supporting complementary measures necessary for the full implementation of the targeted PAF (or other eligible strategy). Therefore, the main objective of the TA-PP project is the submission of a full proposal for a SNAP.

As a general principle, all activities included in the Technical Assistance project must be new and additional to the work undertaken by the applicant prior to the project. In general, and amongst others, the activities:

- should not be research:
- should not include statutory responsibilities of the competent authority;
- should be completed within the duration of the project;
- should be clearly related to the objective(s) of the project and the corresponding SNAP.

Activities may include, among others (this is not an exhaustive list):

- recruitment of new personnel and training for writing a SNAP proposal;
- contracting external assistance for writing a SNAP proposal;
- information collection for the preparation of a SNAP proposal (e.g. on sources of funding);



- networking, consultation and coordination work for preparing and writing the SNAP;
- coordination with stakeholders to be involved in the Strategic Nature Project;
- developing financing plans where such plans are not already part of the targeted PAF, action plan or strategy;
- mapping of the actions complementary to SNAP and their potential sources of funding;
- writing of the SNAP full proposal or concept note and full proposal itself.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is € 70 000. The funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 11).

### Technical Assistance preparation of ENV SIPs - LIFE-2025-TA-PP-ENV-SIP

The objective of this topic is the preparation of ENV Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs). ENV SIPs projects aim at the implementation of: National or Regional Circular Economy Action Plans, Strategies, Roadmaps or similar; National and regional Waste Management Plans (WMPs) and/or Waste Prevention Programmes; River basin management plans (RBMPs); Air quality plans and Noise action plans pursuant to the EU Environmental Noise Directive. The projects must cover a large territorial scale, with the involvement of all concerned stakeholders and include a coordination mechanism for funding supporting complementary measures necessary for the full implementation of the targeted plan or strategy.

The coordinating beneficiary should submit a full ENV SIP proposal in the framework of a dedicated LIFE call for ENV SIP before the end of the TA-PP project.

As a general principle, all activities included in the Technical Assistance project must be new and additional to the work undertaken by the applicant prior to the project. In general, and amongst others, the activities:

- should not be research;
- should not include statutory responsibilities of the competent authority;
- should be completed within the duration of the project;
- should be clearly related to the objective(s) of the project and the corresponding SIP.

Activities may include (this is not an exhaustive list):

- recruitment of new personnel and training for writing a SIP proposal;
- contracting external assistance for writing a SIP proposal;
- information collection for the preparation of a SIP proposal (e.g. on sources of funding);
- networking, consultation and coordination work for preparing and writing the SIP;
- coordination with stakeholders to be involved in the Strategic Integrated Project;
- developing financing plans where such plans are not already part of the targeted strategy or plan;
- mapping of the actions complementary to SIP and their potential sources of funding;
- writing of the SIP proposal full proposal or concept note and full proposal itself.



The maximum EU contribution to a project is € 70 000. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 13).

### Technical Assistance preparation of CLIMA SIPs - LIFE-2025-TA-PP-CLIMA-SIP

The objective of this topic is the preparation of CLIMA Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs). CLIMA SIPs projects aim at the implementation of: National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP); National or regional adaptation strategies or action plans or Urban or community-based action plans pioneering the transition to a climate neutral and/or climate resilient society, including climate-neutral cities plans and actions, in the context of the EU Mission 'Climate neutral and smart cities' and Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans or national, regional or industry-/sector-specific greenhouse gas mitigation strategies or plans or economy roadmaps. They must cover a large territorial scale, involve all concerned stakeholders and include a coordination mechanism for funding supporting complementary measures necessary for the full implementation of the targeted plan or strategy.

The objective of a TA-PP-CLIMA-SIP project is writing a SIP proposal under the sub-programme Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, so all activities must contribute to this goal. All activities included in the Technical Assistance project must be new and additional to the work undertaken by the applicant prior to the project. The activities:

- should not be research;
- should not include statutory responsibilities of the competent authority;
- should be completed within the duration of the project;
- should be clearly related to the objective(s) of the project and the corresponding SIP.

Activities may include (this is not an exhaustive list):

- recruitment of new personnel and training for writing a SIP proposal;
- contracting external assistance for writing a SIP proposal;
- information collection for the preparation of a SIP proposal (e.g. on sources of funding);
- networking, consultation and coordination work for preparing and writing the SIP;
- coordination with stakeholders to be involved in the Strategic Integrated Project;
- developing financing plans where such plans are not already part of the targeted strategy or plan;
- mapping of the actions complementary to SIP and their potential sources of funding;
- writing of the SIP proposal full proposal or concept note and full proposal itself.

The maximum EU contribution to a project is € 70 000. The maximum funding rate is 60%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 15).



### **Sub-programme "Clean Energy Transition"**

Call: LIFE Clean Energy Transition (LIFE-2025-CET)

### Boosting the clean energy transition in cities and regions - LIFE-2025-CET-LOCAL

The topic aims to support cities and regional authorities with the necessary capacity and skills to deliver and implement decarbonisation plans and strategies for the clean energy transition, which are critical for the industries, businesses and citizens in their territories.

Actions should support cities and regional authorities in developing and reinforcing the specific capacities and skills needed to deliver on the clean energy transition and to achieve the specific targets. Proposed actions should consider complementarity and alignment with relevant initiatives, including, but not limited to the National Energy and Climate Plans, the National Building Renovation Plans and the Horizon Europe Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission. In addition, other technical assistance and capacity building initiatives should also be considered.

Proposals are expected to focus on <u>one</u> of the two scopes established below:

- Scope A: Implementation of integrated decarbonisation plans. Proposals should empower cities and regional authorities to develop specific skills, approaches and knowhow to decide and deliver energy measures on the ground and optimise public expenditure. The proposed activities should be place-based and cross-sector, if relevant, and may include, for instance: setting-up of relevant structures; establishing peer-to-peer approaches to share knowledge and best practices; delivering in-depth, comprehensive, and ambitious capacity building programmes that address public and private funding streams of energy measures, improving the regulatory framework, deploying clean energy transition technologies.
- Scope B: Development of methodologies, templates, blueprints and strategies for the preparation of local heating and cooling plans. Proposals should include specific activities including, for instance, building skills, facilitating access to and integration of relevant data, developing comprehensive outlooks on energy demand and supply, fostering a gradual and timely phase-out of fossil gas, engaging market participants and distribution system operators (DSOs) responsible for network decommissioning plans accelerating administrative processes and bundling joint efforts of municipalities at regional or other appropriate governance and territorial levels.

Proposals must be submitted by at least 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to  $\leq 1750$  000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 12).



## Towards an effective implementation of key legislation in the field of sustainable energy - LIFE-2025-CET-POLICY

This topic at addressing the Renewable Energy Directive. Applicants are invited to submit proposals for actions to support national public authorities and - where applicable - regional authorities in charge of the implementation of the Renewable Energy Directive (RED).

Actions under this topic are expected to:

- Promote and enable exchange of insights and sharing of best practices within/ across Member States.
- Provide support, technical advice and tools for contextualisation and specification of requirements, in general and according to the national and regional context.
- Scope, assess and model the impact of implementation options to comply with EU legislative requirements, thereby contributing to the design of more effective policies.
- Support the monitoring and evaluation of policy implementation.
- Develop and apply methodologies to more accurately measure, calculate and account for contributions made under the specific policy measures and programmes.

Actions under this topic are expected to address only <u>one</u> of the <u>two</u> areas below:

- 1. <u>Permit-granting procedures and renewable acceleration areas</u>: Proposals addressing this area shall support competent national authorities in implementing relevant articles in the RED related to speeding up and streamlining permitting procedures and/or the development of plans designating renewables acceleration areas for one or more broad types of renewable energy sources.
- 2. Support national authorities on the implementation of Article 18 of the RED: Proposals addressing this area shall support, including through technical advice and tools, competent national authorities in charge of the implementation of a framework to ensure a sufficient number of trained and qualified installers and designers of renewable heating and cooling systems in buildings, industry and agriculture, installers of solar photovoltaic systems, including energy storage, and installers of recharging points enabling demand response pursuant to article 18 of Directive 2018/2001 as amended.

Proposals must be submitted by at least 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to  $\leq$  2 000 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 15).

Energy renovation solutions - Making buildings' renovation faster, deeper, affordable, smarter, service- and datadriven - LIFE-2025-CET-BETTERRENO

This topic addresses several areas that are key for the achievement of the ambitious EU targets for the decarbonisation of buildings. It aims to develop and deploy approaches that bring actors, markets, frameworks and innovative solutions together to increase the attractiveness and cost-



effectiveness of building performance upgrades and to reduce the administrative, logistic and financial burden that still goes along with buildings' retrofitting. The topic also aims to address the need for qualitative data to make building policy and information instruments more reliable and meaningful, to increase the public acceptance/demand and support robust verification and financing of building renovation and up-grade.

Proposals are expected to focus on <u>one</u> of the <u>two</u> scopes (A or B) established below. Since the topic aims to trigger transnational actions and mutual learning, the implementation of activities is expected to happen in more than one eligible country.

### Scope A: Fostering energy renovations and competitiveness

Under **Scope** A, actions should address <u>one</u> of the following areas/aspects:

1. <u>Increase renovation rates and deliver progress towards achieving a fully decarbonised, zero emission building stock by 2050, as defined in the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive.</u>

Proposals should focus on removing market barriers, stimulating demand and scaling up energy renovations. Proposals should deploy strategies and business models for renovation that can be replicated across multiple buildings, increasing current renovation rates, and on aggregating demand to facilitate more cost-effective, affordable, simple and efficient renovations. Proposals should support the large-scale roll out of solutions, models and approaches that lead to high quality renovations with energy performance guarantees, driving market confidence and stimulating investments. Proposals should take into account all actors in the renovation value chain as relevant (e.g. demand, building owners and investors, occupants, public and decision-making authorities, financial institutions, construction sector representatives, etc.).

2. <u>Improve capacity and productivity of companies in the construction sector to deliver the ambition towards a decarbonised building stock.</u>

Proposals should support actors and companies in the supply chain of the construction sector, notably SMEs, to deliver energy renovations faster, with high quality and reduced costs. This may require the integration of new products, materials and processes with respect to current companies' practice. Proposals should support companies move towards more industrialised processes and optimised ways of working, standardising projects and solutions (including modular and prefabricated solutions where relevant) and facilitating the uptake of digital solutions, including to increase labour productivity in the sector. Proposals can address different stages of the renovation process, including design, planning, management or execution of works, ensuring better access to information and decision making. Proposals can also facilitate the coordination of the different actors in the supply chain to reduce inefficiencies, errors and delays.

### Scope B: Building instruments, data and services

Actions are expected to improve the availability, quality and accuracy of buildings data, in particular in view of enhancing the reliability and consistency of key policy instruments and information tools, such as Energy Performance Certificates (EPC), Renovation Passports (RP) and the Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI).



Actions should address for example <u>one</u> or <u>more</u> of the following areas/aspects:

- Develop, implement and roll-out approaches that improve the availability, quality and consistency of data for Energy Performance Certificates, including by using new or different assessment methods and different integrated data sources, towards improving the accuracy and reliability of EPCs, their indicators and recommendations.
- Improve the reliability and usefulness of Energy Performance Certificates and Renovation Passports and increase the transparency of building performance and renovation needs towards enhancing the market value of energy performance and comfort and to guard against energy poverty; this includes for example actions that help link the rating of EPCs and the improvement of the rating to the value of a building in view of potential investments; this also includes methods to facilitate comparisons of energy costs, indoor environmental quality and other relevant parameters.
- Support the roll-out of Renovation Passports (RP) for buildings as introduced by the revised EPBD to provide building owners planning a staged renovation with a clear strategy for the best timing, sequencing and scope of their interventions. This could include actions to improve the practical market implementation aspects as well as measures to create demand and promote the use of RPs.
- Promote and support the use of digital tools for the assessment of the energy performance of buildings and inspections, notably following constructions, renovations and implementation of single renovation measures; help coordinate the assessments for Energy Performance Certificates, Renovation Passports (RP) and Smart Readiness Indicator; support the testing of combined issuing of EPCs and RPs, in line with the respective national frameworks.
- Develop methodologies that make the collection, structuring and integration of data more robust with the aim to measure and/or estimate and/or calculate and/or document energy performance, energy savings, comfort and other wider benefits, towards facilitating financing of energy renovations and roll-out of energy services.

Proposals must be submitted by at least 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting an EU contribution of up to  $\in$  2 000 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The Commission intends to select one single proposal under this topic. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 19).

## Supporting the clean energy transition of European industry and businesses - LIFE-2025-CET-INDUSTRY

The overall objective of this topic is to support the clean energy transition and decarbonisation of industry by bridging the gap between the demand and supply side of net-zero energy technologies as well as by fostering collaborative approaches among companies operating in physical proximity.



Proposals should address only <u>one</u> of the <u>two</u> scopes below. The scope addressed should be clearly specified in the proposal's introduction.

- Scope A: Collaboration between industrial sectors and technology providers for clean energy technology optimisation and deployment. Proposals under this scope should promote a sustainable and efficient use of energy in a specific industrial sector at European level by facilitating the collaboration between industrial sectors/sub-sectors sharing similar processes and energy related needs with sustainable energy technology manufacturers and providers. Sustainable energy solutions could include among others: renewable energy, heat electrification solutions through the use of heat pumps, and energy efficiency products and processes, including recent innovations ready for market deployment and more in general the renewable energy and energy efficiency related technologies covered by the Net-Zero Industry Act.
- Scope B: Energy Cooperation among industries in proximity to foster clean, affordable and sustainable energy use. Proposals under this scope should foster the market uptake of energy efficiency measures and the use of renewable energy (and heat pumps where relevant), through industrial energy cooperation approaches among companies that are in physical proximity (region, cluster, industrial park/site). This scope aims to support the development of green regional/local industrial area/clusters, in each participating country targeted by the action addressing, among others, energy-intensive users.

Proposals for both scopes must be submitted by at least 3 applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities) from 3 different eligible countries

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to 2 000 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 23).

# National Platforms on energy efficiency skills for the clean energy transition - LIFE-2025-CET-BUILDSKILLS - BUILD UP Skills

Launched in 2011, the <u>BUILD UP Skills initiative</u> aims to increase the number of skilled professionals (blue- and white-collars) along the construction and renovation value chains. Proposals submitted under this topic should focus on only one of the two scopes below:

### Scope A: Supporting operations of existing national skills platforms

For eligible countries where the national platform is already running, proposals should:

• continue to operate the national platform as a permanent structure gathering national experts from all relevant stakeholder organisations, including, but not limited to government authorities responsible for education and energy, professional chambers, education and training providers, trade unions, academia.



- implement the measures listed in the action plan of the 2030 national roadmap recently designed.
- design a large-scale national communication and awareness raising campaign
  - o to promote the contribution of skilled professionals for the clean energy transition,
  - o to make the case for the upskilling of energy efficiency professionals and
  - o to attract more people to energy efficiency professions, specifically for those occupations and skills where a gap has been identified by Member States in the national reports submitted under Article 28(6) EED and in the national roadmap and action plan when appropriate.

### Scope B: (Re)establishing national skills platforms

For other eligible countries not listed under Scope A, proposals should:

- (re)establish the national platform and secure involvement of key stakeholders.
- carry out skills intelligence activities to provide a comprehensive analysis of the national building, energy efficiency and education sectors, as well as a detailed mapping of the gaps in terms of workforce (occupations), skills and qualifications.
- design a national roadmap to address the identified gaps and barriers.
- promote widely the results of the status quo analysis and the measures in the roadmap and make the necessary arrangements to pave the way for the roadmap's implementation.
- design a large-scale national communication and awareness raising campaign
  - o to promote the contribution of skilled professionals for the clean energy transition,
  - o to make the case for the upskilling of energy efficiency professionals and
  - o to attract more people to energy efficiency professions, specifically for those occupations and skills where a gap has been identified by Member States in the national reports submitted under the Article 28(6) EED and in the national roadmap and action plan developed, when appropriate.

For both scopes, proposals must demonstrate a substantial preliminary interest from a range of relevant national stakeholders, including public authorities, through letters of support. Proposals should include a small share of activities to exchange with similar platforms across Europe; those exchanges will be coordinated by the Commission services.

The focus should be on setting up an impactful national initiative, although one proposal may cover several eligible countries. Only one platform will eventually be supported in a given country.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of  $\in$  1 500 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate for both Scopes is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 27).



### Supporting district heating and cooling networks - LIFE-2025-CET-DHC

Proposals should address one of the following aspects and are expected to work either:

- with operators/owners of existing district heating systems to provide them with the required technical support for the preparation of investment plans for the fuel switch of existing district heating systems to fulfil the criteria for "efficient district heating and cooling" as defined in the Energy Efficiency Directive. This can include the extension of existing district heating and cooling networks provided that they are fully based on renewable energy or waste heat and the achievement of efficient district and cooling networks criterion is assured; or
- with municipalities and the relevant key stakeholders in the development of investment plans for new district heating and/or cooling networks, provided that they are fully based on renewable energy or waste heat, and with particular attention to existing buildings.

For both aspects, the focus should be on identifying and offering concrete ways to integrate renewable energy or waste heat, assessing investments needed, and affordability with economic accessibility for residents and businesses.

Proposals should demonstrate, in a clear and convincing way, the commitment of operators/owners of the district heating networks that will be targeted for the collaboration. Proposals should also explain the content of the support to be provided and how the consortium will deliver this support on the ground. Additionally, actions are expected to provide an adequate risk assessment, identify barriers, provide recommendations for regulatory bodies, inputs for local administrations for the preparation of the local heating and cooling plans and promote replication through other district heating operators/owners.

Proposals must be submitted by at least 3 applicants (beneficiaries; not affiliated entities) from 3 different eligible countries.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to  $\in$  2 000 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 32).

### Crowding in private finance - LIFE-2025-CET-PRIVAFIN

This topic aims to increase the amount of private finance allocated to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources by establishing innovative financing schemes. The topic aims in particular to stimulate synergies and develop long-term partnerships between financial institutions and energy services market operators.

Proposals should take into account all the following elements:

• Establish an innovative, operational financing scheme supporting investments in energy efficiency, potentially combined with renewables and energy storage, in at least 1 eligible



country. Proposals can build on and/or upscale innovative financing schemes successfully tested previously.

- Address the provision of finance as well as ensure the availability of demand in the form of a project pipeline complying with the requirements of the scheme, in particular at regional and national level.
- Define the targeted region(s) and sector(s) and justify how the proposed scheme is innovative and complements available funding schemes.
- Clearly demonstrate the business case and financial viability of the proposed scheme (including e.g. market analysis, investment sizes targeted, transaction and management costs, expected energy/cost savings and other returns, etc.).
- Plan replication and/or rollout of the scheme envisaged beyond the region(s) targeted for the establishment, including the analysis of legal and market conditions for replication.
- Demonstrate support of the targeted stakeholder groups and present in a detailed manner how they will be involved throughout the project.
- Demonstrate the additionality of the proposed financing scheme compared to market practices.
- Where relevant, demonstrate complementarity to available public funds, notably under the EU Cohesion funds in view of the preparation of the multiannual financial framework 2028-2034. Applicants should explain how they build on existing funding programmes and initiatives relevant for the targeted region/sector, in particular related to one-stop shops and project development assistance.
- Coordinate with and potentially participate in the national hubs of the European Energy Efficiency Financing Coalition, when relevant.

Proposals may be submitted by a single applicant or by applicants from a single eligible country.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to € 1 500 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 35).

## One-Stop-Shops - Integrated services for clean energy transition in buildings - LIFE-2025-CET-OSS

This topic aims at supporting the creation or replication of One-Stop-Shops (OSS), offering integrated services for clean energy transition in private residential buildings.

Proposals are expected to focus on one of the scopes below:

- Scope A Integrated Home Renovation Services: Actions should clearly focus on the energy renovation of existing single or multi-family buildings in the private residential sector.
- Scope B Integrated services for rental housing energy upgrade: Actions should clearly focus on energy renovations of existing rental housing owned by professional entities. Examples of stakeholders that could be targeted by the services developed under



Scope B are, among others: private housing companies, housing cooperatives, social housing operators, real-estate investors, property managers (on behalf of multi-owner households or real estate investors), building administrators, non-profit organisations, etc.

Proposals under Scopes A and B may be submitted by a single applicant or by applicants from a single eligible country

For Scopes A and B, the Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to up to  $\in$  1 500 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate for both topics is 95%.

### • Scope C: EU community of "Integrated Home Renovation Services" practitioners:

Proposals under Scope C should build on the foundations established by the <u>EUPEERS</u> project, fostering a network of skilled practitioners and bringing together European initiatives focused on integrated home renovation services. By connecting local and regional initiatives, this community will foster international collaboration and share best practices.

Proposals under Scope C should consolidate findings, facilitate dialogue, and support emerging initiatives to expand local projects and enable cross-border replication. Proposals should aim to extend activities to Member States not yet covered by the <u>EU-PEERS project</u>.

For Scope C, the Commission considers relevant that consortia gather a minimum of 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries; and proposals submitted by a single applicant or proposals covering a single eligible country are not considered appropriate under scope C. The Commission intends to select one single proposal under Scope C.

For Scope C, the Commission considers that a proposal requesting a contribution from the EU of a range of  $\in$  2 000 000 to  $\in$  2 500 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately.

The funding rate for all topics is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 38).

## Project Development Assistance for sustainable energy investments - LIFE-2025-CET-PDA

Project Development Assistance (PDA) offers technical assistance to convert sustainable energy project ideas into actual investments. It supports public and private project developers in every step of the way to deliver sustainable energy investments of ambition and scale.

Project Development Assistance (PDA) will support project promoters in preparing and launching investment pipelines of sustainable energy projects, i.e. energy efficiency and/or renewable energy projects. The call topic aims to provide and build technical, economic and legal skills and expertise for project developers needed for the successful project development and implementation.



Activities can include project bundling, technical studies, energy audits, assessing financing options, legal advice, tendering procedure preparation, outreach and engagement etc.

Proposals for this topic can be submitted by public or private project promoters such as public authorities or their groupings, public/private infrastructure operators and bodies, energy agencies, energy service companies, retail chains, large property owners, services or industry.

Proposals should demonstrate a clear showcase dimension in delivering innovative solutions for accelerating sustainable energy investments across Europe, as regards

- Organisational innovation regarding the mobilisation and/or structuring of the investment programme such as setting up facilitation structures, project development units, one-stopshops, aggregation and bundling/pooling approaches, or efficient procurement procedures for large-scale portfolios of (mixed) assets; and/or
- Financial engineering with a particular focus on leveraging private investment including blending public with private financing or improved combination of existing funds. This could include Energy Performance Contracting (EPC), dedicated financial instruments, innovative on-bill and on-tax payment schemes, communitybased financing schemes etc

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of  $\in$  1 000 000 to  $\in$  1 500 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

Proposals may be submitted by a single applicant or by applicants from a single eligible country

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 45).

# **European City Facility - Supporting cities to develop investment plans for the clean energy transition - LIFE-2025-CET-EUCF**

Under this topic, a 'European City Facility' shall be run under the LIFE CET programme. This facility should build on the experiences of the current <u>European City Facility (EUCF)</u> and envisage an appropriate follow-up and scaling up of its fundamental approach. Proposals should take into account the experience of the ongoing EUCF and envisage an appropriate follow-up and scaling up of its fundamental approach.

In this context, proposals are expected to run a 'European City Facility' which offers financial support and related services to European cities, municipalities or their groupings to develop investment concepts for energy efficiency and integrated energy transition investments combining energy efficiency and renewables. These concepts should be developed within a limited period of time and cover, among the others, a clear identification of the potential project pipeline, a legal analysis, a governance analysis, a description of how the investments will be financed and a design of the process to launch the investments.



In order to qualify for support through the European City Facility, cities and municipalities or their groupings should, among other things, provide proofs of political commitment, clarify existing planning processes and resources, demonstrate - on the basis of politically approved SECAPs, local heating and cooling plans, or plans of similar ambition - a substantial potential of investment and energy savings in the context targeted. Additionally, they should describe the investment sectors addressed, the type of financial solutions envisaged and the governance to develop the investment concept. Furthermore, they need to develop a convincing strategy to engage key stakeholders in technical and financial areas, as well as citizens, plan long-term capacity building actions within the public administration, and commit to a monitoring of investment implementation for at least 1 year.

The EUCF should work hand in hand with existing DG Energy initiatives, such as the <u>Smart Cities Marketplace</u> and the <u>Covenant of Mayors</u>, ensuring integrated approaches, exploring synergies on tools and services offered, and pursuing complementarity when facilitating the financing and implementation of the developed investment concepts.

Proposals must be submitted by at least 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries.

The Commission intends to select one single proposal under this topic.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to  $\in$  1 500 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 49).

### Alleviating household energy poverty in Europe - LIFE-2025-CET-ENERPOV

Actions under the topic should contribute to actively alleviating energy poverty and build on the tools, indicators and resources of existing initiatives, such as the Energy Poverty Advisory Hub and the energy poverty pillar of Covenant of Mayors.

The proposed action should cover only <u>one</u> of the two scopes below, either Scope A or Scope B of the topic.

### Scope A: Policy and coordination support to public authorities and stakeholders

- Actions should support national, regional and/or local authorities and societal intermediaries in **setting up long-term, cross-sectoral coordination structures to tackle energy poverty**. The coordination structures should foster cross-departmental and vertical collaboration across national, regional, and local government structures and social intermediaries, and could include setting up long-term national energy poverty observatories.
- Deliver tailored policy support to national authorities on the implementation of relevant provisions of the EED (recast) to allow authorities to design and take concrete policy level actions to empower and protect energy poor households. The proposed action should provide public authorities with support and advice on e.g. regulatory, funding and



technical aspects to help analyse their national policy mix, and to combine, contextualise and pull the different energy poverty-related provisions together to allow for the effective and coherent planning, design and improvement of energy poverty alleviation strategies and measures at the national level.

It is expected that the relevant national/regional/local authorities and stakeholders such as consumer or social organisations, the housing sector, or healthcare providers are either directly involved or their concrete support and involvement is demonstrated in the proposal.

### Scope B: Support for residential multi-apartment building renovation

Actions under Scope B should support the energy renovation of residential multiapartment buildings with energy poor inhabitants, with a particular focus on reinforcing and adapting the governance and decision-making structures of building management and homeowners or tenants associations, tackling related regulatory framework barriers (e.g. property and/or rental laws), split incentives, and setting up and coordinating relevant support services. The renovation actions supported should take into account the ability of residents to remain in their homes after works, thereby avoiding so-called renovictions, and may also include renewable energy solutions.

It is expected that the homeowners or tenant associations and housing organisations, in particular, are either directly involved in the consortium or their concrete support and involvement is clearly demonstrated in the proposal.

Proposals must be submitted by at least 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU in the range of up to  $\in$  1 750 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 52).

### Support services for energy communities- LIFE-2025-CET-ENERCOM

Proposed actions should focus on establishing or expanding support services aimed at facilitating the set-up of new energy communities and the growth of existing ones. The support services can be provided by relevant local actors such as local or regional governments, energy agencies or umbrella energy community organisations (e.g. federations, associations of energy cooperatives). Proposals involving the mutualisation or sharing of services by umbrella energy community organisations or groupings of energy communities are encouraged.

### All proposals should:

• Demonstrate the support of the stakeholders who are necessary to ensure the success of the action through direct participation in the Consortium or a convincing strategy for their involvement (in particular, for local or regional authorities).

- Provide a credible approach regarding the way in which the service will reach and engage energy community project developers. This approach should be adapted to the specificities of the territories targeted and consider how to include diverse types of members.
- Foresee adequate training and capacity building for the staff delivering the services or actors needed for project implementation including (where relevant) local and regional authority staff, community members and installers. The objectives and content of training activities should be outlined in the proposal.
- Outline a compelling plan to ensure the continuity of the support beyond the lifetime of the project.

Proposals must ensure their complementarity to existing national enabling frameworks and local support for energy communities. They should also complement and make use of existing resources and networks as relevant (e.g. the European Energy Communities Facility, the Citizen Energy Advisory Hub). Proposals are not expected to develop any <u>new tools</u>, databases, or digital platforms unless their added value compared to existing ones is clearly justified and their potential scale-up beyond the project convincingly addressed.

Proposals under this topic must be submitted by at least 3 applicants from 3 different eligible countries.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to € 1 750 000 would allow the specific objectives to be addressed appropriately. The funding rate is 95%.

More information: Funding & Tenders portal and call document (page 56).

#### NICOSIA

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