



# The future LIFE Programme

## 2021-2027





# LIFE 2021-2027

- **Commission Proposal adopted on 1 June, 2018**
- **Building on over 25 years of success**
- **Reinforcing the strengths of LIFE**
- **Improving coherence, efficiency and effectiveness based on last evaluation**





# LIFE 2021-2027



→ **Budget increases** from €3.46 bn. to €5.45 bn. → **+ almost €2 bn.**

→ **Two main fields of action**

Environment  
(€3,5 bn)

Climate  
Action  
(€1,95 bn)

**including four sub-programmes**

Nature &  
Biodiversity

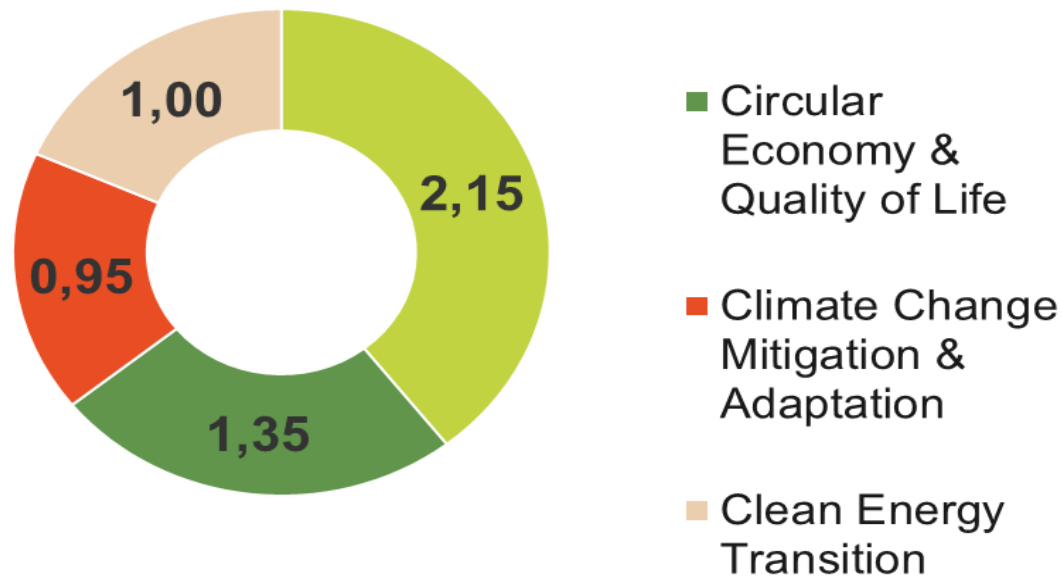
Circular  
Economy  
& Quality  
of Life

Climate  
Change  
Mitigation  
&  
Adaptation

Clean  
Energy  
Transition



# LIFE 2021-2027





# LIFE is...

## → **Policy driven:**

- Dedicated to development and implementation of E.U. environment and climate action policy

## → **Complementary to other MFF programmes:**

- Fills a niche between research and large scale implementation
- Helps make mainstreaming more effective

## → **Catalytic:**

- Facilitates large-scale societal transition to sustainability through development and exchange of best practice
- Mobilises complementary actions from other funding sources

## → **Inclusive:**

- Promotes better governance and widespread involvement of stakeholders





# Proven Elements of LIFE

- Bottom-up approach to generating high quality applications for **Standard Action Projects** to:
  - *develop, demonstrate and exchange innovative methods for meeting environmental and climate objectives*
  - *implement best practice in relation to nature and biodiversity*
  - *contribute to better environmental governance*
- **(Strategic) Integrated Projects** as compliance support tools for catalysing implementation of key environmental plans over large areas
- **NGO Operating Grants** for improving involvement of civil society





# Opportunities for Enhancement

- **Improve strategic focus** on key policy needs:
  - *Targeting evolving needs and priorities*
  - *Reinforce contribution to implementation/compliance agenda*
- **Improve replication/uptake** of successful projects
- **Improve coherence and synergies** with other instruments - leverage funding
- **Ensure streamlining of application and reporting** formats, and address unbalanced accessibility across the EU



**NEW**

# Clean Energy Transition

- **Incorporation of elements of the Intelligent Energy Europe programme, from H2020**
- **Contribution to climate mitigation, with environmental co-benefits**
- **Suitability of LIFE delivery mechanisms**







**Expanded**

## **Strategic Integrated Projects**

- ➔ **Successfully piloted under LIFE 2014-2020 as compliance support tools.**
- ➔ **Expanded budget will enable:**
- ➔ **targeting expanded range of plans (eg – marine environment plans, noise plans.... In addition to water, air, waste, climate)**
- ➔ **meeting demand across M.S. beyond limits of present programme (only 3 per M.S. over 7 years)**
- ➔ **Success is dependent on availability of finance for complementary actions in other programmes.**



**NEW**

# Strategic Nature Projects

- **Mainstreaming of nature and biodiversity into other policies and programmes**
- **Particular focus on Priority action Frameworks for developing the Natura 2000 Network**
- **Support for coherent programmes of actions in each Member State**
- **Mobilization of other Funds (like SIPs)**





**NEW**

## Enhanced Replication

- ➔ **Support for measures to upscale or replicate successful approaches**
- ➔ **Preparation for accessing other financing instruments**
- ➔ **Blending operations**





**NEW**

## **Strategic Flexibility**

- ➔ **Streamlining of the Regulation – no definition of fixed priority areas**
- ➔ **Targeting of key and emerging issues through the multiannual work programmes and calls (prohibited in the present programme)**



# Better Implementation

**IMPROVED**

- **Commitment to continued simplification of programme administration**
- **Two-step application procedure to be introduced if present pilot is positive**
- **Clear set of programme indicators, to be complemented by aggregation of specific project level indicators**
- **Support to LIFE Focal Points in MSs to build capacity for programme access**



# **Synergies with Other Programmes**

- **Uptake and development of innovations first tested in Horizon Europe in Standard Action Projects**
- **Technical Assistance Projects can assist beneficiaries to upscale successful projects in larger instruments (CAP, ERDF, InvestEU...)**
- **Strategic Integrated Projects mobilise funding from other sources, including other EU instruments, for complementary actions that contribute to implementation of the target plans.**
- **Strategic Nature Projects support and help coordinate mainstreaming of nature and biodiversity into other policies and programmes**



# The Way Forward

- **Co-decision procedure**
- **Ideally agreement by March 2019**
- **Drafting of the MAWP**
- **Final adoption in 2020**



**Thank you for your attention!**