





What does it take for a high-quality proposal? 'Nature and Biodiversity'

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Workshop 'How to write a LIFE proposal', 16th May 2018, Nicosia











CALL 2018

LIFE Nature & LIFE Biodiversity projects

LIFE Environmental Governance & Information projects











Before writing!

MUST READ

- > LIFE Regulation, in particular the priority areas
- Multi-annual work-programme 2018-2020 project topics
- Application Packages and Evaluation Guide for LIFE 2018 Sub-Programme Environment
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) 2017
- LIFE Orientation Document 2014
- LIFE website, in particular LIFE project database











LIFE Nature or Biodiversity?

- A nature conservation project that <u>targets exclusively species/habitats of the Birds/Habitats</u>
 <u>Directives</u> should normally be submitted as a **LIFE Nature** project.
- **LIFE Nature** projects are <u>usually focused on concrete conservation measures</u> and are resultoriented, leading to direct and sustainable improvements of the conservation status of species and habitats for which Natura 2000 sites are proposed or designated.
- Most of the targets listed in the Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 e.g. control of IAS or developing GI to improve connectivity and maintaining or enhancing ecosystem services, may be effectively addressed within a LIFE Nature project in the context of the Natura 2000 network.
- LIFE Biodiversity projects are not restricted to the objectives of the Birds and Habitats Directives, but support the broader implementation of the Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020. LIFE Biodiversity addresses targets 2 to 5 of the Union Biodiversity Strategy to 2020.









LIFE Nature / Biodiversity or other?

- A proposed project submitted under the priority area LIFE Nature & Biodiversity must either be a <u>LIFE Nature</u> or a <u>LIFE Biodiversity</u> project. Proposals submitted under NAT or BIO will be evaluated accordingly, no reclassification will be possible.
- A project that may have a <u>positive but secondary impact on nature conservation</u> and/or on halting the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services <u>and whose main objective is in relation to another environmental thematic priority</u> (e.g. water) should not be submitted under LIFE Nature and Biodiversity.









LIFE Nature strand

The **eligibility of project actions** under the LIFE Nature strand <u>depends on the species and/or habitats targeted</u> and can be distinguished as follows:

Site-based actions:

- Bird species targeted by site-based actions must be listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive or be regularly occurring migratory bird species.
- Any habitat types / species other than bird species targeted must be listed in Annexes I or II
 of the Habitats Directive. Site-based actions for Annex IV species not listed in Annex II may
 be possible under certain conditions (see section 2.4.3).

Species-related (i.e. not site-based) actions:

- Bird species targeted must be listed in Annex I or II of the Birds Directive or be regularly occurring migratory bird species.
- Any species other than bird species targeted must be listed in Annexes II, IV and/or V of the Habitats Directive.











A project proposal for NAT/BIO is eligible if:

- contributes to one or several of the <u>general objectives</u> set out in Article 3 of the LIFE Regulation and of the applicable <u>specific objectives</u> in Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the LIFE Regulation;
- 2. falls within the <u>scope of the priority area</u> (as set out in Article 9 of the LIFE Regulation) of the LIFE sub-programme for Environment under which the project proposal is submitted;
- 3. <u>takes place on the terrestrial and/or marine territory of the EU Member States (for NAT where the EU Birds and Habitats Directives apply)</u> and/or territories to which the Treaties and relevant acquis apply or it fulfils one of the exceptions laid down in Articles 5 and 6 of the LIFE Regulation (specified in the Guidelines for applicants 2018);









A project proposal for NAT/BIO is eligible if:

- 4. is not focused on research or dedicated to the construction of large infrastructure;
- 5. corresponds to one of the following <u>project types</u> as defined in Article 2 (a), (b), (c) and (h) of the LIFE Regulation:
 - "Pilot projects"
 - "Demonstration projects"
 - "Best practice projects"
 - "Information, awareness and dissemination projects"









6. A project proposal in **priority area Nature and Biodiversity** is eligible if **it dedicates at least 25% of the eligible budget to concrete conservation actions** (CCA).



If you select NO, the CN most probably will not be selected

Two exceptions to this rule apply for LIFE Nature projects

- Projects for <u>inventories</u> and <u>planning</u> for the designation of new <u>marine offshore Natura 2000</u>
 sites (must include a commitment from the Competent Ministry/Authority to designate the site(s) concerned as N2K sites before the end of the project and the Competent Authority must be a beneficiary of the project)
- <u>Article 11 projects</u>, for the support and/or the further development of the <u>surveillance</u> of the conservation status of natural habitats and species covered by the Birds and Habitats Directives (the Competent Authority in charge of the Article 11 monitoring must be a beneficiary of the project)











Concrete conservation actions (CCA) are actions that **directly improve** (or slow/halt/reverse the decline of) the **conservation status / ecological condition** of the species, habitats, ecosystems or ecosystem services targeted. CCA have substantial and measurable direct positive effects on the environmental issue(s) targeted.

What else can be considered CCA and what not?

- By exception, Preparatory actions (e.g. planning and preparation of the CCA) and land purchase/lease/compensation payments count towards this 25% insofar as they are directly necessary for the execution of concrete actions during the project's lifetime.
- By exception, Monitoring of reintroduced species, preventive measures to detect and prevent major threats (including monitoring), legal protection (achieved within project duration), actions influencing the behavior of key stakeholders, visitor management actions (e.g. fences, trails), may be considered as CCA if terms and conditions are fulfilled.
- Actions related to inventories, management guides, monitoring, stakeholder communication, etc. are <u>not considered</u> a concrete action.









A project proposal in **priority area Environmental Governance and Information** is eligible if:

• It contains actions that lead to substantial and measurable direct or indirect effects on the environmental issue(s) targeted by causing substantial and measurable direct effects on the environmental governance, information, and/or awareness and dissemination issue(s) targeted.









Stage 1: Concept Note Preparation



All the forms in the Concept Note need to be completed in English!!

The Concept Note should NOT include:



- Signed commitments
- Maps, pictures, attachments











Concept Note Award Criteria

Concept Note Award Criteria	Minimum pass score*	Maximum score	
Overall quality of the proposal	5	20	
2. Overall EU added value	10	30	
Overall (pass) scores	15	50	

- clarity of intervention logic and of preoperational context
- feasibility
- indicative value for money

- the project's contribution to the LIFE priorities
- expected impact on EU policy & legislation
- sustainability of project results (continuation, transfer, replication)











Life 2018 NAT/BIO Application Guide Stage 1 Concept note (p. 43-50)

Life 2018 GIE Application Guide Stage 1 Concept note (p. 36-42)

3.1.1 Structure Stage 1

- Administrative forms (A forms)
 - Form A1 General project information
 - Form A2 Coordinating beneficiary
- Project outline (B forms)
 - Form B1 Summary description of the project
 - Form B3 General character of the project and EU added value
- Financial application forms
 - Form R1 Project budget



10 pages total











What should the Concept Note include:

FORM A1:

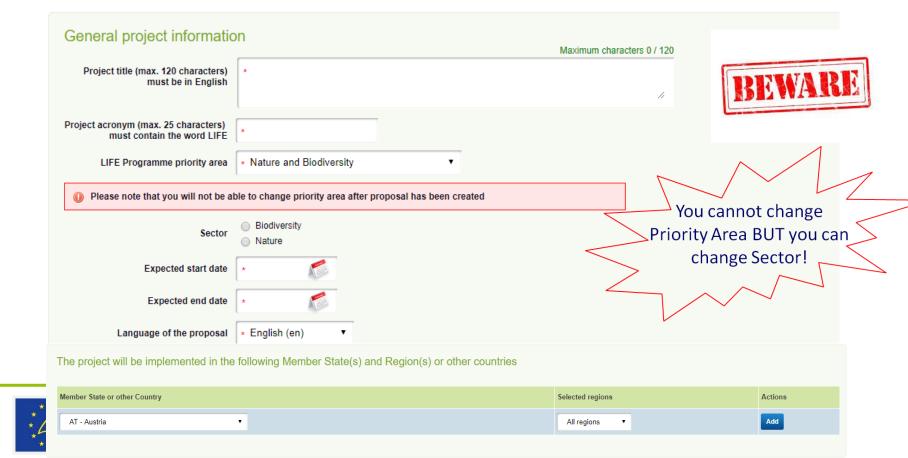
National authorities access

Access granted to National authorities Yes

No

In those cases where the applicants grant access, all National authorities of Member States participating in the project will be able to:

- 1. Access the proposal before and after the closing date of the call
- 2. Access also the communication between the Commission and each applicant who has submitted a proposal through the Mailbox module in eProposal. Please note that National authorities are bound by confidentiality and absence of conflict of interest obligations and that your choice can always be modified later.





Click on the 'Next' button and fill in form A2 (see below).

Please note that after the creation of the concept note (see below, form A2), you will be required to enter the following information in form A1:

The project will be implemented in the following Member State(s) / Region(s) or other countries:

- by default the eProposal tool selects the Member State where the coordinating beneficiary is legally registered (as per form A2). You may change it by using the 'Delete' and 'Add' buttons;
- to add a region, select the Member State, then the Region, and click on the Add button; at least one region must be selected.

If project actions will be implemented outside the EU, select the country from the dropdown list.

Member State	Selected regions	Actions
IT - Italy	All regions	×
AT - Austria	All regions 💌	Add











What should the Concept Note include:

FORM A1:

General project information	
	Maximum characters 40 / 120
Project title (max. 120 characters) must be in English	* Environmental Governance and Information
Project acronym (max. 25 characters) must contain the word LIFE	*LIFE-GIE
LIFE Programme priority area	Environmental Governance and Information
Sector	Activities in support of effective control process as well as measures to promote compliance in relation to Union environmental legislation, and in support of information systems and information tools on implementation of Union environmental legislation Information, communication and awareness raising campaigns in line with the priorities of the 7th Environment Action Programme
Expected start date	◆01/07/2019
Expected end date	*30/06/2022
Language of the proposal	* English (en) ▼
	Caus













What should the Concept Note include:

FORM A2:

Coordinating Beneficiary details

Website

http://

Brief description of the Coordinating Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the proposal: Maximum characters 1449 / 2000

* The Department of Environment (DoE), of the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment (MARDE) is the consulting body for environmental policy issues and coordinator of environment related projects/ programmes. It has the overall responsibility of environmental policy implementation, heads the technical committee on environmental impact assessments, advises on environmental policy, is mandated to ensure the implementation of the environmental policy, coordinates the process for the adoption of the European Union's environmental policy and legislation, coordinates the co-operation of Government agencies with international agencies and promotes environmental awareness, training and information.

Additionally, the DoE constitutes the national focal point of several intergovernmental organizations such as UNFCCC, CSD, MCSD, SMAP, MAP, INFOTERRA and UNEP, and of various Conventions such as the CITES, the Bern Convention, the Barcelona Convention, the Basel Convention, the Ramsar Convention, the Aarhus Convention, the Vienna Convention etc.

The DoE is also responsible for implementation of the Habitats Directive, as well as the protection and management of Natura 2000 network in Cyprus. It employs professionals on environmental management, natural sciences, pollution control, geology and marine ecology.

It has actively participated and/or coordinated many projects that have been or are being implemented in Cyprus.























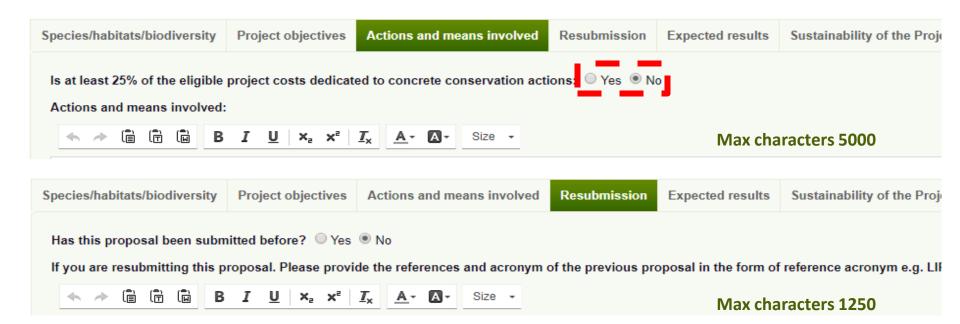




















NAT/BIO PROJECTS

List of all proposed actions

- A. Preparatory actions, elaboration of management plans and / or of action plans
- B. Purchase / lease of land and / or compensation payments for use rights
- C. Conservation actions
- D. Monitoring the impact of the project actions (obligatory)
- E. Public awareness and dissemination of results (obligatory)
- F. Project management (obligatory).

GIE projects

List of all actions

- A. Preparatory actions (if needed)
- B. Implementation actions (obligatory)
- C. Monitoring of the impact of the project actions (obligatory)
- D. Public awareness and dissemination of results (obligatory)
- E. Project management (obligatory)

































Species/habitats/biodiversity	Project objectives	Actions and means involved	Resubmission	Expected results	Sustainability of the Project Results	Project topic(s)	Project Partnership	Expected constraints and risks
Does your proposal addres	s any of the following p	project topic(s)? (Maximum 2 top	pic(s))					
Expand all Collapse all								
Habitats and species in	Natura 2000 sites 🖃							
Improvement of the cons	servation status of habita	at types or species of Community I	nterest under the EU	Birds and Habitats of	lirectives, targeting Natura 2000 sites prop	osed or designated f	or these habitat types or	species.
Habitats and species in	unfavourable or declin	ning status -						
Projects aimed at improving the conservation status of habitat types or species of Community Interest, provided, their status is not 'favourable/secure and not declining' or 'unknown' according to the most recent overall assessments that Member States have provided at the relevant geographic level according to Article 17 of the Habitats Directive or to the most recent assessments according to Article 12 Birds Directive and EU-level bird assessments.								
Marine component of the	Marine component of the Natura 2000 network							
Implementing the marine component of the Habitats and Birds Directives and related provisions under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive descriptor 1, where such projects focus on one or several of the following actions: completing and finalising national inventories for setting up the offshore marine Natura 2000 network of sites restoration and management of marine Natura 2000 sites, including the preparation and implementation of site management plans actions addressing species-, habitat- or site-related conflicts between marine conservation and fishermen or other marine users', as well as actions which combine conservation measures with a sustainable use of Natura 2000 sites, and/or demonstrative or innovative approaches to assess or monitor the impact of human activities on critical marine habitats and species and their application as a tool to guide concrete conservation measures.								
Reasons why the proposal falls under the selected project topic(s):								
	B I U X x x	<u>I</u> _x <u>A</u> ⋅ A ⋅ Size ⋅						Maximum characters: 0 / 1250











Commission

B1 - SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT (in English)



Project topics for Biodiversity max 2 topics!! 0/10 points (AW5)

ec	cies/habitats/biodiversity	Project objectives	Actions and means involved	Resubmission	Expected results	Sustainability of the Project Results	Project topic(s)	Project Partnership	Expected constraints and risk	S
Does your proposal address any of the following project topic(s)? (Maximum 2 topic(s))										
Expand all Collapse all										
	Support to the deploymen	nt of EU-level green a	nd blue infrastructure 🖃							
	Development and applicat	tion of Green Infrastruc	cture-related widely replicable meth	ods and/or techniq	ues that effectively mi	services they provide and/or the connectivitigate the negative impacts of energy or tra ere relevant, lead to free shared solutions of	insport infrastructure	on biodiversity by enhan		9 S
	Integration of biodiversity into financial and business decisions									
	Development and application of tools aimed at integrating biodiversity into financial and business decisions so as to ensure, through the conservation and restoration of biodiversity carried out during the project, no net loss of biodiversity and/or enhanced income delivering ecosystem services.									
	Threatened Red Lists species =									
	Targeting threatened spec Lists, in the IUCN Red Lis		e not included in the annexes of the	Habitats Directive	but have a status of 'e	endangered" or worse in the European spe	cies or habitats Red	Lists or, for those specie	s not covered by the European Re	d
	Invasive Alien Species -	-								
	preventing the intro establishing an ear	oduction of invasive ali	d implementing the following three en species, in particular by tackling eradication system, and blished invasive allen species.			•				

The projects should be set up to improve existing - or introduce new - technical, administrative and/or legal frameworks on the relevant level, in particular in relation to, but not limited to, the species included on the list of invasive alien species of

Reasons why the proposal falls under the selected project topic(s):

























Union concern pursuant to Article 4(1) of the Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Maximum characters: 0 / 1250













1 Project topic for Awareness 0/10 points (AW5)

B1 - SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT (in English)

Project Partnership Constraints and risks Environmental problem targeted Project objectives Actions and means involved Resubmission Expected results Sustainability of the project results Project topic(s) Does your proposal address any of the following project topic(s)? (Maximum 2 topic(s)) Expand all Collapse all Raising awareness - Environmental problems and policies Projects raising awareness on environmental problems, EU environmental policies, tools and/or legislation among the relevant target audiences, aiming to change their perceptions and fostering the adoption of environmentally friendly behaviours and practices and/or direct citizen's engagement. Applicants need to provide substantial evidence that a change of awareness levels in the field(s) addressed by the project is a crucial factor supporting correct implementation and/or future development of EU environmental policies tools and/or legislation. The awareness raising activities should have the widest coverage relevant for the specific issue targeted. The environmental problems, EU environmental policies, tools and/or legislation targeted should be directly linked to one or more of the themes listed below: . Sustainable consumption with a focus on waste prevention, in particular plastic waste, food waste and marine litter . Transition to circular economy, in particular implementation of sustainable business models, sustainable production, products and services Natura 2000 and the benefits of the implementation of the European nature legislation, in line with the Action plan on nature, people and the economy · Invasive alien species · Safe use of chemicals · Benefits of nature including green infrastructure and related ecosystem services · Air quality in urban areas and its health effects; and/or · Benefits of the implementation of water legislation. Reasons why the proposal falls under the selected project topic(s): ♠ → Î Î Î N B I U X₂ x² Ix A A Size -Maximum characters: 0 / 1250













Project topics for Governance max 2 topics!! 0/10 points (AW5)

Project topic(s) Does your proposal address any of the following project topic(s)? (Maximum 2 topic(s)) Expand all Collapse all Governance - Management of environmental information | + Governance - Quality of public administration + Governance - Voluntary approaches + Governance - Environmental compliance assurance strategies | + Governance - Networks and training on environmental compliance assurance Governance - Compliance promotion, monitoring and enforcement | + Governance - Interaction between the public and public authorities + Governance - Access to justice and conflict resolution | + Reasons why the proposal falls under the selected project topic(s): Size









Project Partnership

What are the Project Partnership details for the Project:







Size +

Maximum characters: 0 / 3000











Expected constraints and risks

Expected constraints and risks related to the project implementation and mitigation strategy:











 $B \quad I \quad \underline{U} \quad | \quad x_2 \quad x^2 \quad | \quad \underline{T}_X \quad | \quad \underline{A} \quad \square$

Size +

Maximum characters: 0 / 2500









Nature / Biodiversity projects

EU ADDED VALUE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS

Best practice/Demo/Pilot: of Project

EU added value

Best practice character/demonstration character/pilot aspects of project

























Size +

Max characters 4000

Best practice/Demo/Pilot: of Project

EU added value

EU added value of the project and its actions:

























Α-



Max characters 3000











Environmental Governance and Information projects

B3 - EU ADDED VALUE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS

EU added value

EU added value of the project and its actions:









Size - Max characters 3000









Proposals / LIFE-GIE / Reports / R1 - Budget

Financial application forms: Form R1 – Project budget

Proposal status: Draft Concept Note

Budget breakdown cost categories						
	Total cost in €	Eligible cost in €	% of total eligible costs			
1. Personnel	0	0	*			
2. Travel and subsistence	0	0	*			
3. External assistance	0	0	*			
4. Durable goods						
Infrastructure	0	0	•			
Equipment	0	0	*			
Prototype	0	0	•			
8. Consumables	0	0	•			
7. Other costs	0	0	•			
8. Overheads	0	[0	0,00%			
Total	0	0	100%			

Contribution breakdown

Contribution breakdown						
	In€	% of total	% of total eligible costs			
EU contribution requested	0	0,00%	0,00%			
Coordinating Beneficiary's contribution	0	0,00%				
Associated Beneficiaries' contribution	0	0,00%				
Co-financers contribution	0	0,00%				
Total	0	100.00%				









Concept Note Evaluation

- ✓ The applicants with the best ranked concept notes (CN) will be invited (in 10/2018) to submit a full proposal (FP).
- ✓ The list of applicants invited to submit a FP will include the best ranked CNs, for which the sum of the EU contributions requested represents 2 to 2.5 times the available budget.
- ✓ The long list will include sub-lists for each priority area. In case the demand under one priority area is insufficient, the lists corresponding to the other priority areas may be extended.















Thank you!

Contact Information
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