

# The LIFE Programme

The LIFE Programme is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action. The general objective of LIFE is to contribute to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation by co-financing projects with European added value.

During the current Programming Period the LIFE Programme has two sub-programmes:

The Environment sub-programme

i. Environment and Resource Efficiency

Your National Contact Point

- ii. Nature and Biodiversity
- iii. Environmental Governance and Information

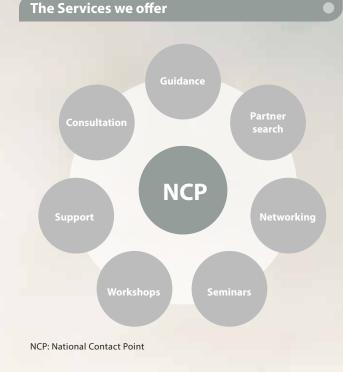
The Climate Action sub-programme

- i. Climate Change Mitigation
- ii. Climate Change Adaptation
- iii. Climate Governance and Information

Your National Contact Point for the LIFE Programme is the Department of Environment.

In addition, the Department of Environment is now running a LIFE Project, called LIFE Cyclamen. Through this project the Department has created a team of experts who further empower your National Contact Point.

The whole team is ready to help you during the submission of your proposal, during your actual project with whatever is troubling you, but also help you after the end of your project. In other words we are here to help you succeed!

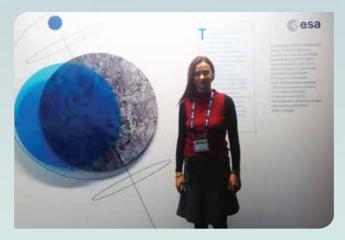


## We subsidised the participation in an EU event

The LIFE Cyclamen Project announced an Open Call on the 17th of September 2018, inviting interested parties to request a subsidy for participating in an EU event (conference, workshop, seminar, networking event, etc.) about the environment and climate change.

The aim of the participation was to facilitate the exchange of experience and best practices with other EU Member States, with the purpose of enhancing the diffusion of project results (possible replicability and marketisation) at national and EU level, so as to boost potential reproducibility and lead to the submission of new LIFE Proposals.

The first applicant who was able to benefit from our subsidy was Jonilda Kushta from the Cyprus Institute. Mrs Kushta attended MED2018. A user consultation meeting in ESA -ESRIN Frascati, Italy that aimed to define a roadmap for a Mediterranean initiative within ESA's EO Science for Society Programme Element, encompassing topics such as atmosphere, oceanography, climate and land research and applications.



## **Our events**

### "How-to-write a LIFE Proposal" Workshop

The LIFE Cyclamen team organised a Workshop on "How-to-write a LIFE Proposal (2nd stage / Full Proposal)" on Tuesday December 18th, 2018, in Nicosia.



The aim of the workshop was to highlight the main points that elevate the quality of the LIFE Proposals, as well as identify the best practices in writing a full Proposal.

During this workshop the LIFE Cyclamen team presented the details regarding the B forms found on e-Proposal when applying for a LIFE Grant.

Attendies were separated into thematical working groups and had the opportunity to discuss specific environmental problems, complete the B forms and identify common mistakes.

This workshop was followed by another one focusing on Communication Actions and Financials. This second workshop took place on Friday January 11th 2019, in Nicosia and its aim was to highlight best practices for the communication actions and financials.

#### **Networking Event for LIFE Projects**

We organised a Networking Event on Thursday December 13th 2018, at Centrum Hotel, in Nicosia.

LIFE beneficiaries with years of experience in running LIFE Projects joined us, together with LIFE experts from abroad, who shared their rich and valuable experiences and results with participants.

The purpose of the event was to enhance networking, diffusion of projects' results and to promote brokeraging, so as to boost potential reproducibility and marketisation of the results of Cypriot beneficiaries abroad and vice versa.

We would like to thank all those who participated in this networking event and hope that all the presentations and the subsequent discussions were the beginning of new partnerships and synergies!



### Press Conference: LIFE Programme and RELIONMED-LIFE

The Cypriot LIFE National Contact Point and the team of the LIFE Cyclamen Project organised a press event on Thursday December 6th 2018, at the University of Cyprus. The purpose of the event was to introduce local journalists to the LIFE Programme – EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action.

During this event participants had the opportunity to hear more about a Cypriot LIFE Project that is currently running, namely RELIONMED-LIFE. This project aims to protect the Mediterranean from the lionfish (Pterois miles) – an Invasive Alien Species – through an early warning system and targeted removal with the aim of preventing the ecological and socioeconomic effects of this invasion.

This event received great media coverage!



# LIFE Info Event: Forestry Department

The Cypriot LIFE NCP and the LIFE Cyclamen team organised a short Info Event for Officers of the Cyprus Forestry Department, on Friday November 2nd 2018 in Nicosia.



During the event the LIFE Programme and its two subprogrammes – Environment and Climate Action – were presented, while stressing the thematic priorities related to the Forestry Department, as per the LIFE Multiannual Work Programme 2018-2020. In addition, special reference was made on the different services the National Contact Point (NCP) offers to applicants and beneficiaries of ongoing projects. Moreover, some communication tips were shared with the purpose of increasing the effectiveness of the communication actions included in LIFE Projects.

Lastly, participants had the opportunity to hear about related LIFE Projects that were carried out in other EU countries.

# Participation in other events

## LIFE Cyclamen at the Info Event on "European Programmes and Funding Opportunities"

We participated in the Info Event on "European Programmes and Funding Opportunities" organised by the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development and the European Commision in Cyprus. The event took place on Tuesday November 27th 2018, in Nicosia.



During the event we had the opportunity to present the LIFE Programme to an audience of about 300 people. In addition, participants were able to ask our team LIFE-related questions, find out more about the LIFE Programme and discuss their ideas, so as to clarify whether they can be eligible for a LIFE grant.

Moreover, we were able to share informative material with people from completed, as well as current Cypriot LIFE Projects.

# 'Get Connected' Fair

The LIFE Cyclamen team participated at this year's 'Get Connected' fair, organised by the EU House. The fair took place at the Mall of Cyprus in Nicosia on Saturday, November 10th, 2018 and during this event a total of 19 networks were represented and were able to give advice and guidance to the public about the opportunities the EU offers.



# LIFE Cyclamen at the Limassol Green Dot festival

Our team participated at this year's Green Dot festival in Limassol, which took place on Saturday October 6th, 2018, at Molos.

Visitors at the LIFE Cyclamen stand were able to learn what the LIFE Programme is, who can benefit from it, as well as find out about different running LIFE Projects in Cyprus, which help our country reach its environmental goals.

We had the opportunity to meet people from organisations, which can possibly apply for a LIFE Project. Our team was able to answer questions and provide these potential applicants with guidance. In addition we encouraged people to contact us for a face to face meeting with our team so that we can look into their idea in more detail and provide them with any further guidance and support they might need.

Participating in this festival was a great opportunity for the LIFE Cyclamen team to reach out to the general public and inform people about how the LIFE Programme is assisting our country, and Europe in general, in improving and protecting our environment.



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# **Useful Links**

ec.europa.eu/easme/en/life www.lifecyclamen.com.cy www.moa.gov.cy/moa/environment/environmentnew.nsf





LIFE National Contact Point in Cyprus Department of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment http://www.moa.gov.cy/environment



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