



Life
Cyclamen

Cyprus Capacity Building for Life
LIFE14 CAP/CY/000006

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
- 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

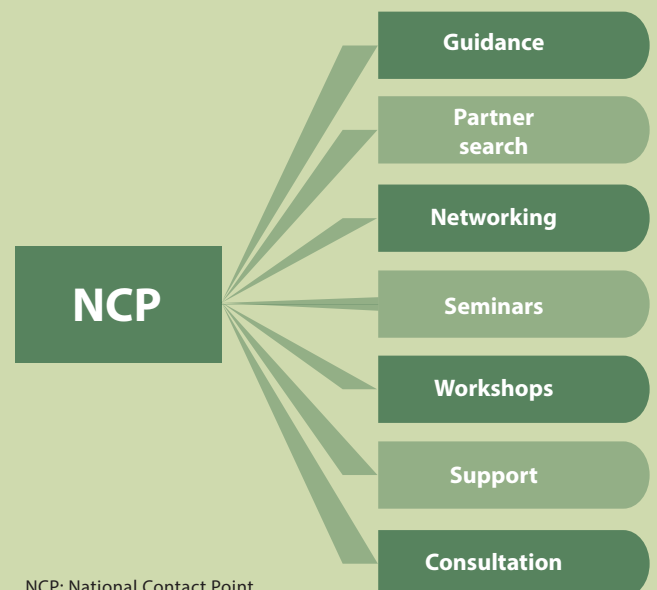
Your National Contact Point

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!

The Services we offer



NCP: National Contact Point

○ CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

A circular economy is an economic system aimed at minimising waste and making the most of resources. The traditional linear economy model is based on a 'take-make-consume-throw away' approach, whereas in the circular system the last stage is replaced with "reuse".

Circular economy is a hot topic worldwide, as it appears to be able to improve the wellbeing of people and at the same time reduce our dependence on primary materials.

While consumerism is increasing rapidly, so is the production of waste and the consumption of resources for the production of new products.

Consumers demand a better quality of life, a better standard of living and less environmental impact. However, the linear approach on which our economy is structured today (i.e. 'take, make, dispose' model of production) makes it clear that the high standard of living we are demanding does not go hand in hand with environmental protection and sustainability.

The way forward

Shifting from a linear to a circular economy, while ensuring the use of sustainable production and consumption standards, requires a change in perception and behaviour of consumers with regards to reuse, repair, refurbishment, recovery and recycling. What we previously considered as 'trash' can now turn into raw material, meaning: take, make, use and reuse.

Businesses and consumers will have to turn to alternative products, which have an environmental benefit, while contributing to the generation of green jobs and promoting innovation and competitiveness. In addition, through the establishment of reuse systems, businesses can benefit from higher quality alternative materials, and this in turn can lead to longer product life and a greater environmental benefit.

How can we deal with the challenge?

The European Union is responding to this new challenge by making the environment and resource efficiency one of its main priorities, with a special emphasis on circular economy. In order to promote the implementation of related policies, the EU has included the topic of environment and resource efficiency under the LIFE Programme, which

is EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action.

The general objective of the LIFE Programme 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. Beneficiaries of the Programme are public bodies, non-governmental organisations, local authorities, universities and private companies registered in an EU member state.

The LIFE Programme, which has been around as a financial instrument since 1992, has already funded a number of projects that promote circular economy. An example of such a project is AUTOPLAST-LIFE (LIFE13 ENV/IT/000559). Its aim is to develop a system for the recovery and recycling of special plastic waste from the automotive sector. The system includes a network for the selective collection of vehicles' waste tanks and reservoirs, as well as a pilot recycling plant to generate recyclable secondary material. In other words, the plastic parts of vehicles that would in normal circumstances end up in landfills are reused with multiple financial and environmental benefits. Replacing the primary raw material with recycled plastic creates an immediate financial gain due to its low cost, while at the same time helps reduce CO2 emissions linked to the production process.

Another related project, which has received co-funding from the LIFE Programme is LIFE MULTIBIOSOL (LIFE14 ENV/ES/000486). Current farming practices require the use of large quantities of plastic film and plastic fruit protection bags (and clips to close them) since they help prevent the growth of weeds, protect crops from insects, regulate soil and produce temperature and retain water and nutrients. These plastic materials become plastic waste after a single-use, thus creating a serious problem of waste management since it is time-consuming and expensive to recycle them. This plastic waste is usually abandoned, incinerated or taken to a landfill. These practices have serious consequences for the environment. Therefore, governments and farmers demand cost-efficient, environmentally responsible solutions. These are the challenges the LIFE MULTIBIOSOL project is tackling with and its aim is to demonstrate an innovative, economically viable and fully biodegradable plastic that eliminates waste completely.

Did you know...

WE SUBSIDIZED THE PARTICIPATION OF TWO PEOPLE IN EU EVENTS

The LIFE Cyclamen Project announced a 2nd Open Call on the 29th of January 2019, 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 two applicants who were able to benefit from this Open Call were:

Yianna Orphanidou, of the Cyprus Sustainable Tourism

Initiative (CSTI), had the opportunity to participate in the BeMed Two-Day event on the 27th and 28th of March at Monaco. The BeMed project is an initiative of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation that brings together NGOs of the Mediterranean, which could submit proposals in assisting in the reduction and eradication of plastic and the pollution in the Mediterranean sea.



Kyriaki Michael, of Terra Cypria, was able to attend the 5th International Conference on Marine Mammal Protected Areas, which took place in Greece on the 8th – 12th of April 2019.



Our events

HOW TO WRITE A LIFE PROPOSAL WORKSHOP 2019

The LIFE Cyclamen team organised a Workshop on “How-to-write a LIFE Proposal” in Nicosia on Tuesday, May 7th 2019, as a part of the Cyprus Capacity Building LIFE Programme. The purpose of this workshop was to explain how the LIFE Programme works, starting from the very beginning with the Call of Proposals until the submission of Proposals and their assessment. In addition, it aimed to provide guidance to participants through the experience of the National Contact Point (NCP).



Guest Speakers

During this Info Day we had the pleasure of having with us two guest speakers:

Mr. Elias Demian from NEEMO (LIFE Programme’s external monitoring team) presented the importance of EU added value, which includes (a) Sustainability (continuation, replication, transfer potential) (b) Contribution to the specific objectives of the priority areas of each sub-programme, (c) Contribution to the project topics, and (d) Synergies and transnationality. Mr Demian explained with examples the EU added value of LIFE Projects and how this can be presented in a LIFE Proposal.

In addition, he shared with participants some practical tips and suggestions for writing a successful LIFE proposal.

Mr. Periklis Kleitou shared with us the experience of Marine and Environmental Research (MER) Lab with the LIFE Programme and gave us valuable insights from the preparation of the proposal of the RELIONMED-LIFE project. 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.

Mr Kleitou also explained the evaluation scores that RELIONMED-LIFE achieved and gave us some suggestions for writing a winning LIFE proposal.

Participants found the workshop very enlightening and particularly enjoyed the practical aspect of it.

○ SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF 2019 INFO DAYS

We have successfully completed our LIFE Info Days for 2019. The Info Days took place in Nicosia (April 4th), Ayia Napa (April 15th) and Limassol (April 18th). The purpose of these events was to inform any potential beneficiaries of the LIFE Programme 2019 Call.

During the Info Days, the two Sub-Programmes and their thematic priorities were described based on the Multiannual Action Programme for 2018-2020 and the 2019 Call in particular. In addition, participants were informed of the

different services the National Contact Point (NCP) offers to applicants, as well as to ongoing or past projects. Useful hints and tips were given regarding capturing and maturing an idea, as well as on writing a successful LIFE Proposal.



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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>



With the contribution of the LIFE financial
instrument of the European Community,
through a Capacity Building Grant,
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