



Life
Cyclamen

Cyprus Capacity Building for Life
LIFE14 CAP/CY/000006

The LIFE Programme

The LIFE Programme is the EU's funding instrument establishing two sub-programmes; 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.

The sub-programme for **Environment** supports the following priority areas:

- i. Environment and Resource Efficiency
- ii. Nature and Biodiversity
- iii. Environmental Governance and Information

The sub-programme for **Climate Action** supports the following priority areas:

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

During the Programming Period 2014-2020 LIFE Programme will contribute approximately €3,46 billion.

Life Cyclamen Project

Life Cyclamen project targets to empower and capacitate Cyprus' National Contact Point with personnel, competencies, skills and knowledge, experiences and networking in order to enhance the effectiveness and outreach of its services to applicants, with the ultimate goal to increase the performance of cyprriot proposals to the LIFE Programme in both numbers and quality. Life Cyclamen project has been financed through a LIFE Capacity Building Grant with a financing rate of 100% of the total eligible project budget.

Within the framework of the Life Cyclamen project, the cyprriot LIFE National Contact Point aims to provide the following support services to all LIFE Programme applicants a) utilizing LIFE's opportunities, b) improving the quality of submitted proposals, c) providing updated information to applicants and beneficiaries, d) organizing educational workshops and seminars, and e) finding networking partners and connections.



Recruitment of New Personnel within the framework of Life Cyclamen

Nature and Biodiversity Expert



Dr Maria Zomeni

Maria Zomeni holds a Ph.D. in Landscape Ecology and a B.Sc. in Biology from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. To date she has participated in numerous research projects with focus on land-use/land-cover change detection and modelling, landscape pattern analysis and conservation of threatened species and habitats. She shares great interest in the study of spatial pattern effects on landscape functions and species persistence, focusing on habitat loss and fragmentation. She is particularly concerned with the implementation of the Natura 2000 network of protected areas, with emphasis on the investigation of its effectiveness towards biodiversity conservation.

Environment and Resource Efficiency Expert



Dr Olympia Nisiforou

Olympia Nisiforou holds a PhD in Environmental Science and Technology a BSc in Marine Science, an MSc in Environmental Pollution Control and an MSc in Learning in Natural Sciences. She has extended experience in pollution monitoring and control. She has also worked nationally and internationally providing consultancy services on various issues within the wider environmental sector and has undertaken various Environmental Impact Assessments and technical studies.

Climate Change Expert



Panos Kakonitis

Panos Kakonitis holds a degree in Civil Engineering from the Department of Democritus University of Thrace (BSc, MEng) with postgraduate studies at the Bartlett School of Architecture in London, in Environmental Design and Engineering and is certified as LEED Accredited Professional Building Design and Construction (LEED AP BD + C) since 2008. He has worked in Cyprus and abroad providing consultancy services on various issues of environmental character, climate change and has participated in a number of co-funded projects.



LIFE 2016 Kick-Off Meeting Events in Brussels

LIFE 2016 Kick-Off Meeting Event of Climate Action Projects

EASME organized the LIFE 2016 Kick-off Climate Action Meeting Event in Brussels on the 19th and 20th of October 2017, aiming to present an updated overview of the relevant policy, technical and financial aspects, as well as, the sustainability and replicability potential of the LIFE 2016 projects.

Project Beneficiaries were introduced to the LIFE Programme technical and financial Provisions, and were given the chance to interact with other project beneficiaries, EASME representatives and the external monitoring team. Our National Contact Point was represented by our Climate Change Expert Mr. Panos Kakonitis.

LIFE 2016 Kick-Off Meeting Event Nature and Biodiversity Projects

The Cypriot LIFE National Contact Point represented by our Nature & Biodiversity Expert Dr. Maria Zomeni, participated at the LIFE 2016 Kick-off meeting for Nature and Biodiversity projects held between 18 and 19 of October 2017 in Brussels. The beneficiaries from 20 EU Member States presented more than 50 projects. These new "Nature and Biodiversity" and "Environmental Governance and Information" projects sum up to more than €150 million, receiving over €100 million from EU co-financing. The projects focus on biodiversity issues dealing mainly with species management, birds' conservation, conservation and management of fish,



rivers and wetlands, invasive alien species and ecosystem services, as well as Natura 2000 sites and habitats of EU concern.

Kick-off Meetings of Cypriot 2016 LIFE Call funded projects

Kick-off Meeting of iLIFE-TROODOS project (LIFE16 GIE/CY/000709)

On September 25, 2017 the LIFE NCP participated at the kick-off meeting of yet another new LIFE Environmental Governance and Information project for Cyprus i.e. the iLIFE-TROODOS project (LIFE16 GIE/CY/000709) held at Frederick University. The three-year project with a total budget of €1,313,826.00 and €766,125.00 of EU co-financing, aims to increase public awareness of the Troodos national forest park's natural values and the ecosystem services it provides, with the ambitious goal of outreaching 90% of Cypriots and a quarter of the island's tourists per year. The Department of Forests is the coordinating beneficiary of the project along with Frederick University, Contact Advertising Agency Ltd, and the Department of Environment as partners.

Kick-off Meeting of RELIONMED-LIFE project (LIFE16 NAT/CY/000832)

The LIFE National Contact Point participated at the kick-off meeting of a brand new LIFE Nature project for Cyprus i.e. the RELIONMED-LIFE project (LIFE16 NAT/CY/000832) held on September 5, 2017 at the University of Cyprus, i.e. the coordinating beneficiary. The four-year project with a total budget of €1,676,077.00 and €1,000,849.00 of EU co-financing, aims to protect waters surrounding Cyprus and the Mediterranean – particularly Natura 2000 areas such as Cape Greco – from the invasive *Pterois miles* also known as lionfish, through early response and targeted removal. The Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, Enalia Physis Environmental Research Centre, Marine & Environmental Research (MER) Lab Ltd. in Cyprus and the University of Plymouth in the UK, also participate in the project.

Kick-off Meeting of LIFE MEDEA (LIFE16 CCA/CY/000041)

The Medical School of the University of Cyprus has scheduled the LIFE MEDEA Kick-off Meeting (LIFE16 CCA / CY / 000041) on December 11 and 12, 2017 in Nicosia. The LIFE-MEDEA project's main goal is to demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of an adaptation strategy to Desert Dust Storms (DDS), and to better inform EU policy-making by providing a field-based evidence for the adoption of a strategic plan for mitigating the health effects of DDS events in south-east Europe.



Participation of National Contact Point to other events

Green Dot's Environment and Recycling Festival, Limassol

The LIFE National Contact Point participated at the Environment and Recycling Festival, organized by Green Dot Cyprus in cooperation with Limassol's Major Municipalities on October 7, 2017. During the event the public had the opportunity to be informed about the LIFE Programme and its funding opportunities.

ClimateLaunchpad Grand Final in Limassol

In view of the world's largest green business ideas competition, the LIFE National Contact Point attended the ClimateLaunchpad Grand Final that took place on October 17 and 18, 2017 in Limassol. This year over 35 countries across the globe participated in the competition with more than 105 startups pitching against each other. The competition was hosted by Chrysalis LEAP, a Cleantech Accelerator based in Cyprus that helps entrepreneurs bring their cleantech ideas to market.

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