

ENVIRONMENT

LIFE

LIFE (The Financial Instrument for the Environment) of Community environment policy was launched in 1992. LIFE cofinances environmental initiatives in the European Union and certain third countries bordering on the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea, and in those EU candidate countries that have decided to participate.

LIFE +

LIFE+ is to be a single, modern and flexible instrument for funding and programming many EU environmental activities. The new programme will focus on concrete measures which contribute to improving Europe's environment.

LIFE+ will regroup a broad range of existing environmental programmes and instruments, including the current LIFE programme, the Forest Focus and Urban programmes, DG Environment's funding programme for environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and a general fund for policy development and implementation, in a single framework.

LIFE+ will address all four priority areas of the Sixth Environment Action Programme (6EAP, running from 2002 to 2012) - climate change; nature and biodiversity; health and quality of life; natural resources and waste – as well as the programme's seven Thematic Strategies.

The new programme is divided into three strands:

1. **LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity:** this focuses on the implementation of the EU directives on the conservation of habitats and of wild birds, as well as further strengthening the knowledge needed for developing, assessing, monitoring and evaluating EU nature and biodiversity policy and legislation;
2. **LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance:** this covers the other 6EAP priorities besides nature and biodiversity, as well as strategic approaches to policy development, implementation and enforcement;

LIFE+ Information and Communication on environmental issues.

LIFE+ is created to bring a new strategic approach to the programming of activities with a clearer division of responsibilities between the Commission and member states. It also provides member states with more flexibility to respond to their various national and regional environmental priorities. A multi-annual strategic programme will be drawn up which will form the basis of national annual work plans to be implemented by national agencies.

In contrast to LIFE+, the existing LIFE programme is purely project-based, supporting innovative pilot and demonstration projects aimed at environmental protection and nature conservation across the EU as well as in some acceding, candidate and

neighbouring countries. Since 1992, LIFE has co-financed some 2.500 projects, contributing 1.5 billion EUR to the protection of the environment.

LIFE+ Call for proposals 2010

Provisional calendar of the LIFE+ 2010 evaluation and selection procedure:

1/09/2010	Deadline for applicants to send proposals to Member State authorities
4/10/2010	Deadline for the Member States to forward proposals to the European Commission
10/2010 to 04/2011	Admissibility, exclusion and eligibility, evaluation and revision of the proposals
07/2011 to 08/2011	Signature of individual grant agreements
01/09/2011	Earliest possible starting date for the 2010 projects

MORE INFORMATION

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/lifeplus.htm>

It is also possible to contact the relevant national authorities:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/contact/nationalcontact/index.htm>

DEADLINE

The next Call for proposals is scheduled to be announced on **5 May 2010**.

ENERGY

The first "*Competitiveness and Innovation framework Programme (CIP)*" is a coherent and integrated response to the objectives of the renewed Lisbon strategy. Running from 2007 to 2013, it has a budget of approximately EUR 3.6 billion. It represents a 60 % increase in annual spending on actions related to competitiveness and innovation by 2013 compared to 2006.

The three specific programmes in the CIP framework are:

- *Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme - 2.166mio EUR*
- *ICT Policy Support Programme - 728mio EUR*
- *Intelligent Energy-Europe Programme - 727mio EUR*

Eco-innovation will be a transversal theme of the whole programme.

MORE INFORMATION

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INTELLIGENT ENERGY – EUROPE PROGRAMME

The objective of the Intelligent Energy - Europe Programme is to contribute to secure, sustainable and competitively priced energy for Europe.

OBJECTIVES

- to foster energy efficiency and the rational use of energy resources;
- to promote new and renewable energy sources and to support energy diversification;
- to promote energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energy sources in transport.

The Programme will in particular contribute to the Commission's proposed integrated energy and climate change package including the action plan for energy-efficiency and the renewable energy road map.

Intelligent Energy – Europe and its predecessor have become the main Community instruments to tackle non-technological barriers to the spread of efficient use of energy and greater use of new and renewable energy sources. From 2007, Intelligent Energy – Europe is included in the overall Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) in order to contribute to achieving the objectives of EU energy policy and to implementing the Lisbon Agenda.

Intelligent Energy - Europe covers action in the following fields:

Energy efficiency and rational use of resources (SAVE), including:

- improving energy efficiency and the rational use of energy, in particular in the building and industry sectors;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

New and renewable energy resources (ALTENER), including:

- promoting new and renewable energy sources for centralised and decentralised production of electricity, heat and cooling, and biofuels, thus supporting the

- diversification of energy sources;
- integrating new and renewable energy sources into the local environment and the energy systems;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

Energy in transport (STEER) to promote energy efficiency and the use of new and renewable energies sources in transport, including:

- supporting initiatives relating to all energy aspects of transport and the diversification of fuels;
- promoting renewable fuels and energy efficiency in transport;
- supporting the preparation and application of legislative measures.

Integrated initiatives combining several of the aforementioned fields or relating to certain Community priorities. They may include actions integrating energy efficiency and renewable energy sources in several sectors of the economy and/or combining various instruments, tools and actors within the same action or project.

The above fields and objectives are valid for the whole Programme duration, i.e. from 2007 to 2013.

BUDGET

The indicative total amount available for this call is about EUR 46 million, of which about EUR 2 million will be for new local and regional energy management agencies.

For additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the National Contacts in your country or the EACI.

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INFO FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL ACTORS

ManagEnergy is an initiative of the European Commission Directorate-General for Energy and Transport, which aims to support the work of actors working on energy efficiency and renewable energies at the local and regional level. The main tools are sectoral advice, training, workshops and online events. Additionally information is provided on case studies, good practice, European legislation and programmes.

www.managenergy.net includes a partner search system with some 3500 organisations, including 380 energy agencies, which can provide valuable expertise and partnerships on energy activities at local and regional levels.