

The new LIFE Programme Call 2022 – info & tips



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LIFE Info Day 2022

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Content

- The LIFE Programme 2021-2027
- Call(s) 2022:
 - Aspects/info applicable to all Calls
 - SAP Calls (standard actions)
 - STRAT Call (strategic projects)
 - CET Call (coordination and support actions)
- Tips to prepare a successful proposal

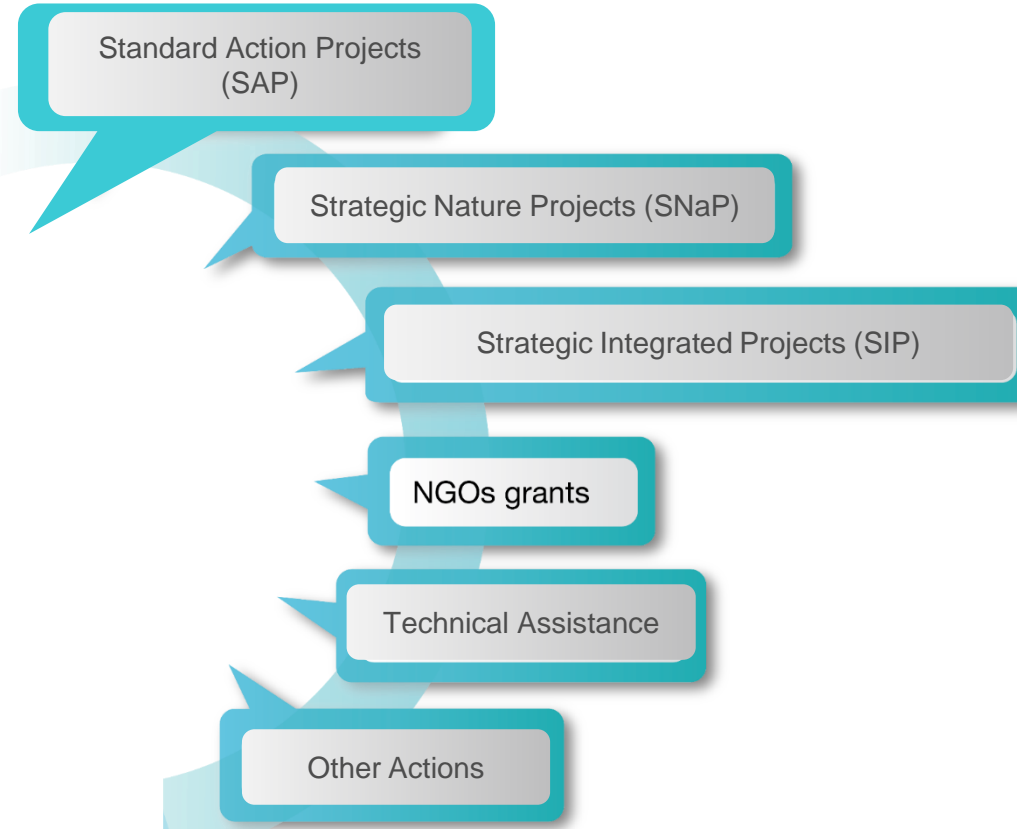


The LIFE Programme 2021-2027: 5.400 M€

4 Sub-programmes



Types of grants



We look for:

- IMPACT
- SUSTAINABILITY
- REPLICATION



LIFE 2022 Call(s)

- All info in https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en , section “Calls for Proposals”
- EU Info Days (virtual info sessions):
https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life/life-calls-proposals_en
 - Ppts + recordings will be soon available
- Further info/support: [LIFE National Contact Point](#)



Call(s) 2022 - Key docs

- ✓ The corresponding **Call document**
- ✓ The Standard Application Form (template applicants must use)
 - ✓ Very important: **read & follow instructions** in each section (incl. annexes like budget table)!
- ✓ FAQs → in LIFE web (except CET Call, which has them in the Funding & Tenders Portal)

READ ALL OF THEM!



Call document structure

0. Introduction

1. Background

What is the LIFE Programme?

Nature and Biodiversity

Circular Economy and Quality of Life

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Clean Energy Transition

2. Type of action — Objectives — Themes and priorities — Activities that can be funded — Expected impact

Type of action

Objectives

Scope — Activities that can be funded

Expected impact

Funding rate

Additional conditions

Topics and priorities

3. Available budget

4. Timetable and deadlines

5. Admissibility and documents

6. Eligibility

Eligible participants (eligible countries)

Consortium composition

Eligible activities

Geographic location (target countries)

7. Financial and operational capacity and exclusion

Financial capacity

Operational capacity

Exclusion

8. Evaluation and award procedure

9. Award criteria



Call document structure (2)

10. Legal and financial set-up of the Grant Agreements

- Starting date and project duration

- Milestones and deliverables

- Form of grant, funding rate and maximum grant amount

- Budget categories and cost eligibility rules

- Reporting and payment arrangements

- Prefinancing guarantees

- Certificates

- Liability regime for recoveries

- Provisions concerning the project implementation

- Other specificities

- Non-compliance and breach of contract

11. How to submit an application

12. Help

13. Important



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document

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Who can apply?

- A public or private legal entity
- Registered in:
 - the EU or an overseas country or territory linked to it;
 - a third country associated to the LIFE programme;
- a legal entity created under Union law or any international organisation.

Natural persons are not eligible to apply.

Legal entities established in a **third country which is not associated** to the LIFE Programme may exceptionally eligible to participate where this is necessary for the achievement of the objectives of a given action to ensure the effectiveness of interventions carried out in the Union. However, **those** legal entities shall in principle **bear the cost of their participation**.

Associated third countries:

- Iceland
- Ukraine in ongoing negotiations
- Others only expressed interest so far (e.g. Albania, North Macedonia)



EFTA countries which are part of the European Economic Area (EEA)

- **Iceland** participates in the LIFE Programme (*agreement signed in September 2021 — entry into force retroactive on 01 January 2021*)
- Norway does not participate in the LIFE Programme
- Liechtenstein does not participate in the LIFE Programme

EU Acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates

- Currently, no country participates or is in ongoing negotiations to participate in the LIFE Programme
- **Albania** has expressed interest to participate in the LIFE Programme
- **North Macedonia** has expressed interest to participate in the LIFE Programme
- **Turkey** has expressed interest to participate the LIFE Programme

European Neighbourhood Policy countries

- Currently, no country participates in the LIFE Programme
- **Ukraine** is in ongoing negotiations to participate in the LIFE Programme
- No other country is in ongoing negotiations
- **Andorra** has expressed interest to participate in the LIFE Programme
- **Israel** has expressed interest to participate in the LIFE Programme
- **Moldova** has expressed interest to participate in the LIFE Programme

Other countries

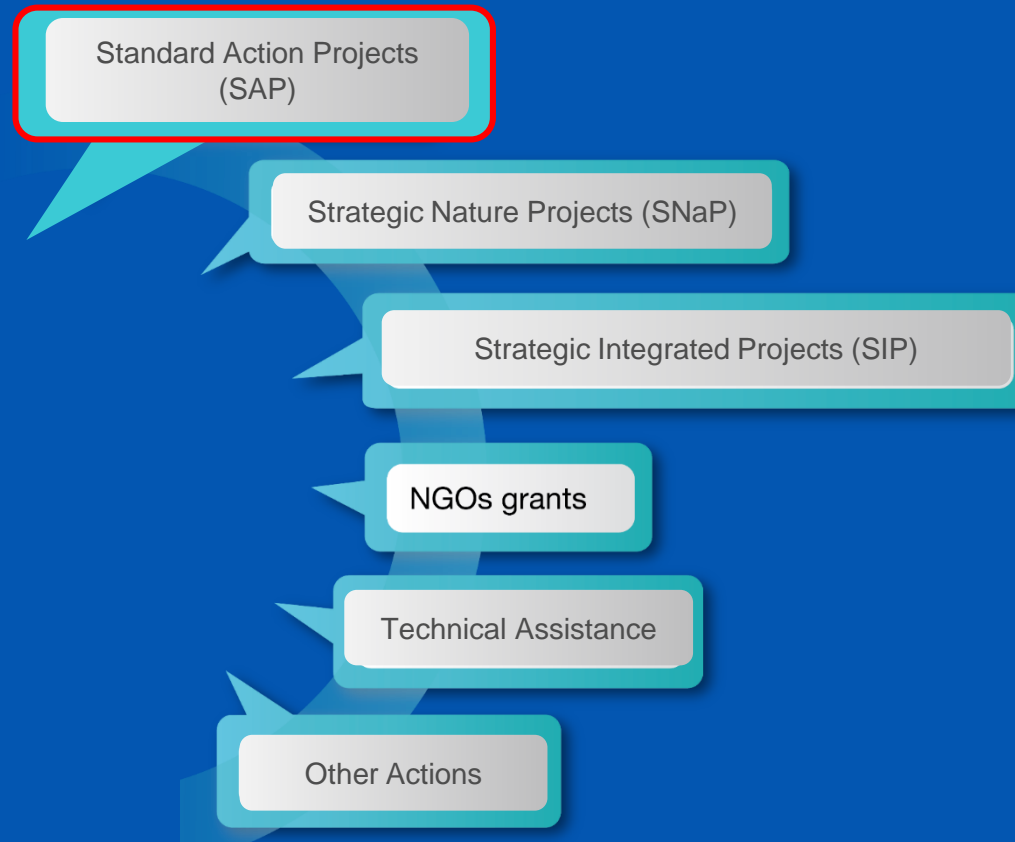
- Currently, no country participates or is in ongoing negotiations to participate in the LIFE Programme
- **The Faroe Islands** have expressed interest to participate in the LIFE Programme

To keep in mind

- No focus on research or large infrastructure
- Innovation: enough if at country or sector level
 - If priority area (Ch 2 of Call doc) states “innovative”. If not, best practices ok
- Even if you don't fit in any priority in Ch. 2, you can get funded (except CET Call)
- Equipment costs:
 - By default full depreciation
 - Not computers, cars... unless specific for project and required for it



Types of grants



Standard action projects (SAPs)

- ‘Traditional’ LIFE projects aimed to:
 - Support the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of relevant Union legislation and policy
 - Apply best practice solutions, or develop, demonstrate and promote innovative techniques, methods and approaches that offer environmental or climate advantages compared to current practices
 - Catalyse the large-scale deployment of successful solutions for implementing relevant EU legislation and policies by replicating results, mobilising investment and improving access to finance
- Co-financing rate 60% (up to 75% for Nature & Biodiversity)
- Max 10-year duration (average 3-5)
- Average EU contribution 0.5 - 5 million € (some as high as 20 million)



Standard Action Projects (SAPS): **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

AW1: **Relevance** (0-20 points)

AW2: **Impact** (0-20 points) * **1,5**

AW3: **Quality** (0-20 points)

AW4: **Resources** (0-20 points)

5 Bonus criteria (2 points each)

The award criteria are scored between 0 and 20, and the weight of all is the same, except IMPACT * 1,5

To pass :

- at least 10/20 in each case, and
- total score of at least 55 points

See Chapter 9 of Call doc



LIFE-2022-SAP Calls

- 3 Calls with several topics each, in the [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)
 - LIFE-2022-SAP-NAT
 - LIFE-2022-SAP-ENV
 - LIFE-2022-SAP-CLIMA
- **One stage** → fill in **all** the “empty boxes” in application forms
- **Deadline** for submission: **04/10/2022**





LIFE-2022-SAP-NAT Call : Nature & Biodiversity

Examples:

- Projects supporting nature conservation and restoration in the Natura 2000 network.
- Species protection.
- Invasive Alien Species
- Ecosystem restoration

and much more ...

→ See:

- Chapter 2 of Call doc
- Examples of ongoing projects in [LIFE project database](#)
- Tips: define well baseline, present specific objectives for species/habitats, large impact, define good monitoring to check results





LIFE-2022-SAP-ENV Call : Circular Economy & Quality of Life

- Support to technologies and solutions that are ready to be implemented in close-to-market conditions, at industrial or commercial scale, during the project duration
- Support to public authorities and others to implement EU environment legislation
- Areas: circular economy, noise, air, chemicals, green and circular economy, industrial accidents, marine and coastal management, noise, soil, waste, water, and the urban environment

→ See:

- Chapter 2 of Call doc
- Examples of ongoing projects in [LIFE project database](#)
- Toughest topic (more competition): SAP-ENV-GOVERNANCE





LIFE-2022-SAP-CLIMA Call : Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

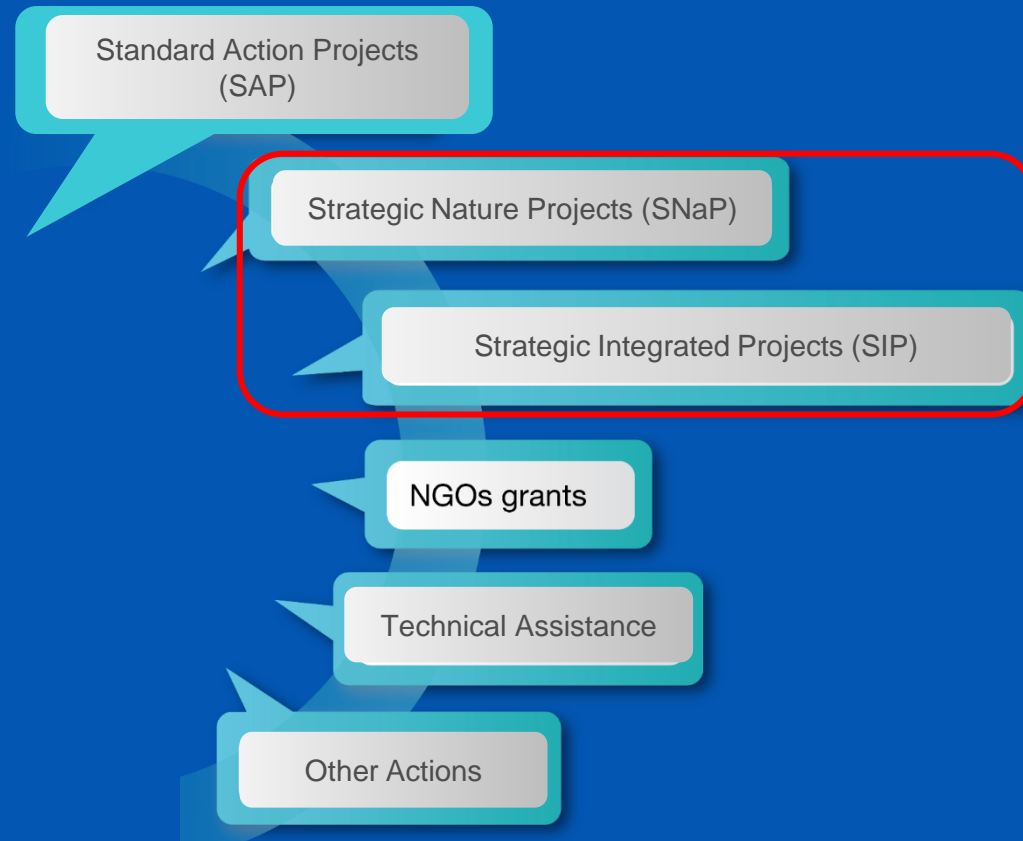
- On **climate mitigation**, projects that contribute significantly to the implementation of:
 - the 2030 energy and climate policy
 - the EU Member States' National Energy and Climate Plans
 - European Union's mid-century and long-term climate and energy strategy
- On **climate adaptation**:
 - projects that support the implementation of the new EU adaptation strategy and related national implementation

→ See:

- Chapter 2 of Call doc
- Examples of ongoing projects in [LIFE project database](#)



Types of grants



Strategic Nature / Integrated Projects (SNAP/SIP)

... to implement certain plans and strategies → led by / with competent authority

... at a large territorial scale

... with full engagement of all the concerned stakeholders

... to mobilise & coordinate significant additional sources of funding

... in phases of 3 y each approx

- Co-financing rate 60% max
- Indicative LIFE grant: 10 – 30 M€
- Maximum 14 y duration (proposals typically 6 -10 y)



Strategic Projects eligible target plans

• SNAPs

1. **Prioritised Action Frameworks** under the Habitats Directive
2. other **plans or strategies** adopted at international, national, multiregional or regional level by nature and biodiversity authorities, that **implement EU nature and/or biodiversity policy or legislation**

SIPs – Environment

1. **Circular Economy SIPs** - National or Regional Circular Economy Action Plans, Strategies, Roadmaps or similar
2. **Water** – River Basin Management Plans under the Water FD & Flood Risk Management Plans & Marine Strategies
3. **Waste** – Waste Management Plans and/or Waste Prevention Programmes under the Waste FD
4. **Air** - Local and regional Air Quality Plans, and National Air Pollution Control Programmes

SIPs – Climate Action

1. **National or regional adaptation strategies or action plans;**
 2. **Urban or community-based action plans** pioneering the transition to a climate neutral and/or climate resilient society;
 3. **National Energy and Climate Plans;**
 4. **National Energy Efficiency Action Plans;**
 5. **National, regional or industry-/sector-specific greenhouse gas mitigation strategies or economy roadmaps** contributing to climate neutrality.
- CCA
- Urban
- CCM

****In green text: newly added objectives compared to 2014-2020****

Call 2022: LIFE-2022-STRAT-two-stage

- One Call with 3 topics in [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)
 - **SNAP (nature) topic** → biannual Call covering 2 years → apply now!
- 2 stages:
 - **Stage 1** (concept note):
 - You will provide less info
 - **Deadline** to submit: **08/09/2022**
 - **Stage 2** (full proposal):
 - Only if you pass stage 1
 - Deadline to submit: 30/03/2023
- **Special support** for this Call:
 - Consult ideas/doubts: cinea-life-enquiries@ec.europa.eu
 - Apply for a technical assistance project to draft proposal: LIFE-2022-TA-PP Call (deadline 08/09/2022)



Call 2022 - Evaluation criteria

Stage 1 (Concept Note)

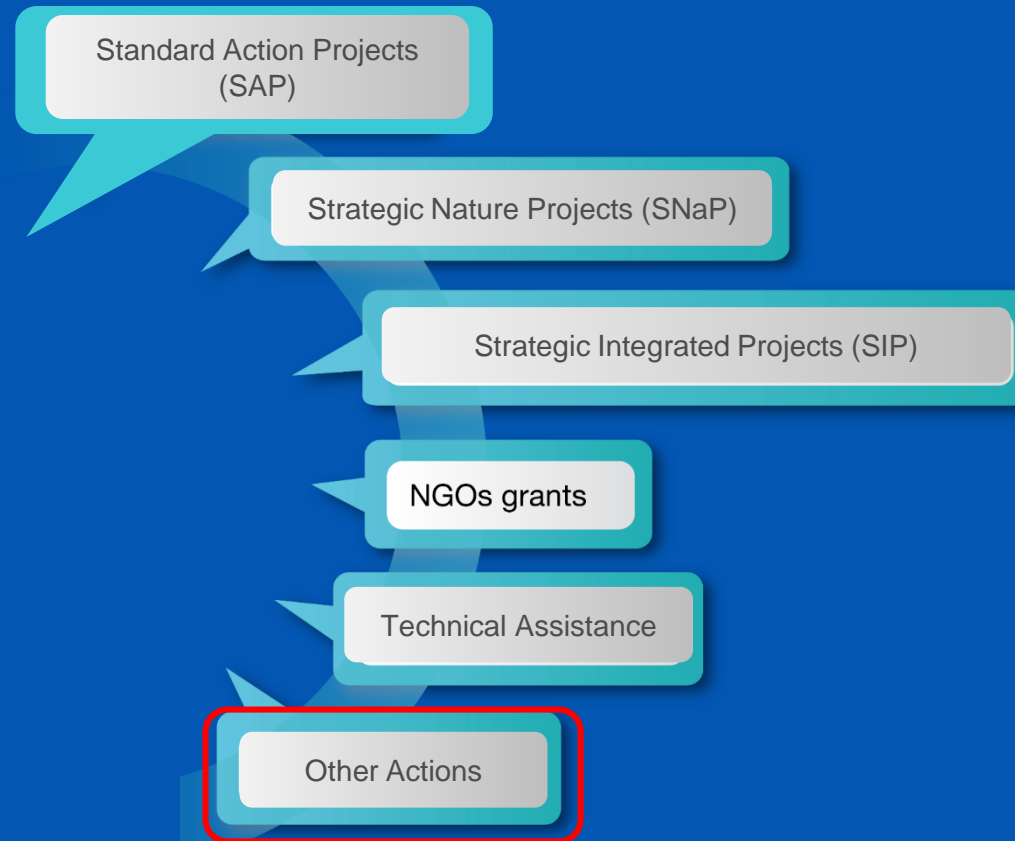
- 1) Implementation of plans or strategies
 - 2) Territorial coverage
 - 3) Coordination of complementary funds
 - 4) Involvement of key stakeholders
- These are yes/no criteria. Concept note must meet all four criteria for the applicant to be invited to present full proposal.

Stage 2 (Full Proposal) award criteria

- 1) Relevance
 - 2) Quality
 - 3) Complementary funding
 - 4) Impact
 - 5) Resources
- The award criteria are scored 0-20, the weight of all is the same.
 - To pass:
 - at least 10/20 in each, and
 - total score at least 55



Types of grants



Other action grants – Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs)

- CSAs are the **standard** type of **grant for the CET sub-programme**
- Targeting cleaner and less energy use
- Through capacity building, dissemination of information and knowledge, awareness raising
- Policy-driven, prescriptive call topics
 - A tightly pre-defined scope of the proposal;
 - Engagement of multiple stakeholders and large transnational consortiums;
 - EU-widely validated results feeding into EU policy making;
- **Co-financing rate of 95%** maximum
- Usual duration between 18 and 36 months
- **No infrastructure costs**, mainly labor costs





LIFE-2022-CET Call

- One Call with **18 topics** in [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)
- **One stage** → fill in **all** the “empty boxes” in application forms
- **Deadline** for submission: **16/11/2022**

- **FAQ** in [Funding & Tenders Portal](#)



LIFE-2022-CET Call: **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

AW1: **Relevance** (0-20 points)

AW2: **Impact** (0-20 points) * 1,5

AW3: **Quality** (0-20 points)

AW4: **Resources** (0-20 points)

The award criteria are scored between 0 and 20, and the weight of all is the same, except IMPACT * 1,5

To pass :

- at least 10/20 in each case, and
- total score of at least 55 points

- Like for SAP Calls, but no bonus points (so max score is 90 points)



Applying successfully:

Tips to Succeed



Tips from experience (1)

- **Follow the instructions** included in the form: answer questions
- Keep strictly within the number of pages and **do not** delete instructions
- Ensure **consistency** between the different parts of the application
- Be **ambitious but realistic** about the objectives and build a credible intervention logic
- Expected **impact** of the project compared to a quantified **baseline** analysis (and related indicators)
- Activities/plans to ensure **sustainability** of the project results are absolutely crucial!
- **Uptake and Replication** addressed and related project actions well conceived
- Check [the projects already funded on the LIFE Projects database](#) to find out what has already been done



Tips from experience (2)

- Timetable/schedule: provide for **safety/buffer times** (to cover e.g. permit delays)
- Be transparent about the **risks**/limitations of the project and anticipate the risks as much as possible
- Composition of the **team**: have the right partners but also the right profiles in each organisation — explain relations with non-partner stakeholders
- Make sure to link well budget and activities — check the “**value for money**”
- Justify the budget in the **detailed budget table** (Annex to Part B) **and** ensure consistency with **overall budget** in Part A
- **Cost categories**: consult [Annotated Grant Agreement](#)
- Ensure a good balance of **deliverables and milestones** in the proposal: they are important as they make the expected results concrete



How to prepare your submission (1)

- Find out about all available documentation for applicants that is available on the [LIFE website](#) but above all on the [submission portal](#).
- Consult all the **documents** under the section [Topic conditions and documents](#)
- **Key docs:** call doc, grant model, annotated grant model, FAQ
- Consult the section [Get support](#)
- Contact your [LIFE National Contact Point](#)
- Ask an 'informed outsider' for **critical reading** and feedback
- If you have the chance, have a **native speaker** check the English
- **Start early...** start now.
- **Submit** your application **on time**.

How to prepare your submission (2)

The key steps for good preparation are detailed step by step under the link [IT How to — Funding Tenders Opportunities \(europa.eu\)](#)

- In particular, check if your [entity is already registered \("PIC" nr\)](#), otherwise do not wait to do so (without "PIC" for all partners, no submission possible).
- For all issues about creation of entities, access → contact the IT helpdesk: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/helpdesks/contact-form>
- Help for beginners in a complete video that guides you step by step: [Funding & Tenders Portal for beginners](#).
- The portal has a very detailed online manual: [On-line Manual](#), which explains steps step by step with screenshots



Build a good consortium

- **Choose well your partners** – with relevant competences
 - Good if one has prior experience in LIFE, especially as coordinator
- **Involve the consortium members** in the preparation – avoid surprises after submission
- **Keep consortium motivated** - agree a working method for the proposal phase, make a plan for their input
- Partner **search** tool for each Call/topic (you can also check [LIFE project database](#)):



Partner search announcements

Searches of partners to collaborate on this topic

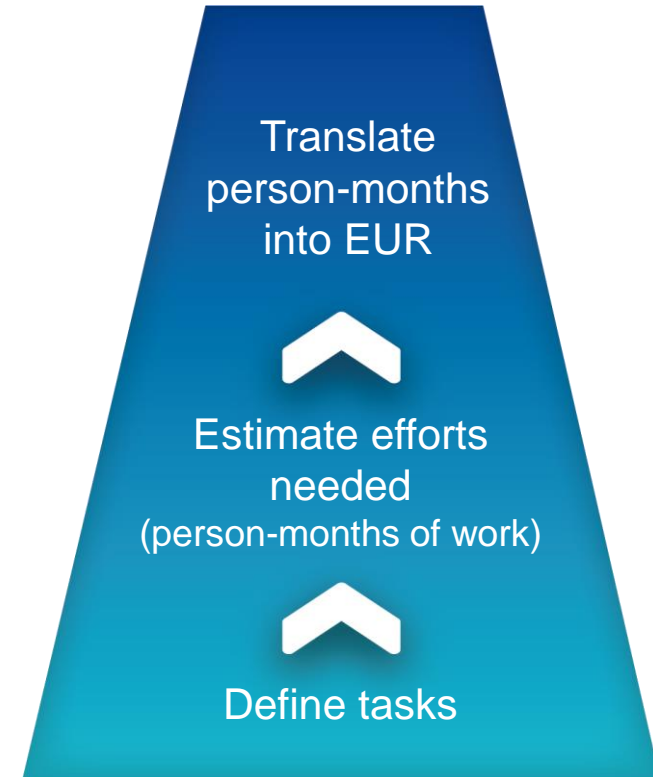
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[View / Edit](#)

LEARs, Account Administrators or self-registrants can publish partner requests for open and forthcoming topics after logging into this Portal, as well as any user having an active public Person profile.

Create a budget

- Define your budget 'bottom-up'
- First describe the tasks – then define the budget
- Check consistency regularly while advancing on with your Work Plan and Work Package design:
 - share of resources;
 - appropriate levels between partners;
 - appropriate weight of person-months between major work steps





30 years of bringing green ideas to LIFE

Thank you for your attention



https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en



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