Short outlines for proposal: LIFE 2016 grant for climate governance related action

The sub-programme we would be interested in working out a proposal, concerns the following section:

LIFE Climate Governance and Information (sub-programme for Climate Action) will co-finance action grants for **information, awareness and dissemination** projects that promote awareness raising on climate matters, including generating public and stakeholder support of Union policy-making in the field of the climate, and to promote knowledge on sustainable development; that support communication, management, and dissemination of information in the field of the climate and to facilitate knowledge sharing on successful climate solutions and practice, including by developing cooperation platforms among stakeholders and training; and that promote and contribute to more effective compliance with and enforcement of Union climate legislation, in particular by promoting the development and dissemination of best practices and policy approaches. See also the LIFE section of the DG Climate Action web-site.

(van de EC website: Governance and information: Enhancing climate governance and capacity-building, increasing awareness, communication, cooperation and dissemination of information on mitigation and adaptation actions.

Funding will be available for pilot, demonstration and best practice projects. A new type of project – integrated projects – is introduced in 2015 to support the integration of climate action. Climate change mitigation or adaptation strategies, action plans or roadmaps required under Union legislation, developed pursuant to other Union acts or developed by Member States' authorities could be financed through these new projects.

Climate change governance and information

LIFE Climate Action also supports projects which enhance climate governance and capacity-building and raise awareness on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

This should also allow to broaden stakeholder involvement in consultation and implementation of climate change policy across the EU.

Under the 2015 call, projects should focus on climate governance and capacity-building. Projects could develop train-the-trainers programmes and cooperation platforms, share best practices for more effective compliance, enforcement and mainstreaming, and generate support from the public and stakeholders for the Union's policy-making efforts.)

EU policy priorities:

- Enhanced implementation and development of climate policies also requires transparency and accountability. A solid system for tracking progress through enhanced monitoring and reporting is therefore important, as well as a robust ex-post evaluation of the effects of climate policies. An essential element is the (ex-post) assessment of the functioning of the EU ETS, its impacts and interaction with energy and other policy instruments and the related development of easily accessible information and data. Therefore projects which build broader and stronger networks of experts and ensure wider dissemination of knowledge on emissions inventories, projections, monitoring and evaluation of policies and measures are needed.
- Building coordination platforms on climate policy monitoring, assessment and ex-post evaluation in order to support the development of cost-effective climate action, both on mitigation and adaptation. Concerning adaptation this should include adaptation indicators, risk communication and management and on linking the existing information-sharing systems for adaptation.

1. **Identification of the problem**

   At European level, member states need to report biennial under the MMR (http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/652) on their polices & measures. Within the context of the Energy Union, national climate and energy plans need to be developed (http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/energy-union-and-climate/state-energy-union_en). These also include information on policies and measures. In the member states themselves, also at local level (covenant of mayors), the interest in having an appropriate set of measures to tackle climate change problems is growing.

2. **Description of the problem**

   There is very little information or support on how MS should perform a solid ex post assessment or evaluation of their polices & measures related to climate change. This leads to incomplete reporting and inconsistencies between MS. Climate policy monitoring to support the development of cost-effective climate action is therefore very difficult. This is both the case for mitigation and adaption measures.

3. **Analysis of the current situation**

   MS already do report on their polices and measures regarding climate mitigation (See for example report of EEA on reporting of policies and measures (http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/overview-of-reported-national-policies) and MS have developed national climate adaptation plans.

4. **Objectives?**
   - **Stocktaking of existing evalations methods on climate policies and measures**
   - **Create an online platform** where
     - MS can find information on evaluation tools and information sources that can be used to assess and evaluate policies and measures
     - Case studies can be found, so that for similar policies in different MS, information can be found on 'best practices'

     And/or
   - **Develop learning network between MS**

   - **Evaluate with the partner countries in the project a set of selected PAMs, benchmark, …**
   - **Organise a workshop** where interested parties can present relevant case studies and ideas can be exchanged and results can be presented
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5. **Who is targeted?**
   - MS staff involved in the reporting of polices and measures under the MMR, RED, EED and Energy and climate plans under the Energy Union; local governments
   - Evaluators (like the EU Evaluator network)
   - EEA

6. **Actions**

   - **Priority list of problem encountered when assessing and evaluating policies & measures (mitigation & adaptation)**: we would like to build upon the work already done by EEA in 2016, where for a selection of policies and measures and with the cooperation of a selection of MS, an evaluation was done:
     o Scoping paper defined the methodology (based on the Better regulation guidelines)
     o Workshop with selected MS
     o Evaluation of the selected PAMs
     o Final workshop to present the work (September 2016)

     Based on the results, and with input from the MS representatives in the project, a priority list will be developed. An option would be to send out a questionnaire to participants of the EEA workshop and other parties concerned (like the EU evaluators network).
   - **Set up an online platform and/or learning network**
     o Case studies, like the evaluations done within the EEA
     o Information on existing tools, data sets, etc
     o …
   - **Select a number of specific polices and measures to evaluate:**
     o Define selection criteria
     o Screen existing case studies related to the selected PAMs
     o Evaluate, benchmark,streamline ….
     o ….. needs to be refined and more detailed….
   - **Final workshop**

7. **Indicators to monitor the results**

   - Number of case studies
   - Number of evaluation performed
   - Increased transparency, completeness of reported PAMs under MMR?
   - …..

Contact details for proposal:

We are looking for a consortium that includes MS officials; research institutes that are involved in the evaluation of climate mitigation or adaptation measures; an IT partner, partner that has experience in setting up workshops, …..

We as VITO are involved in the European Topic Centre for Air Pollution and Climate Change (http://acm.eionet.europa.eu/), where we are working on Member States' climate policies and measures (mitigation); we are also at local level (Flanders) involved in setting up action plans for local governments; we have worked on evaluating the climate policies and measures at federal level in Belgium (http://www.klimaat.be/files/3914/3453/2205/2015_final_report.pdf)

Please contact:

Tom Dauwe
Email: tom.dauwe@vito.be
Tel: +32 14 33 59 77

Kristien Aernouts
Email: Kristien.aernouts@vito.be
Tel: +32 14 33 58 74

Nele Renders:
Email: nele.renders@vito.be
Tel: + 32 14 33 58 35