



# El nuevo programa LIFE 2014-2020

## Introducción general

JORNADA INFORMATIVA

“LIFE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y ACCIÓN POR EL CLIMA”

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DG ENV.E.3 – DG CLIMA A.2



# Outline

- ➔ (Policy) Context
- ➔ (Legal) Structure
- ➔ Some more communalities of the LIFE sub-programmes
- ➔ New focus: Climate Action





# (Policy) Context

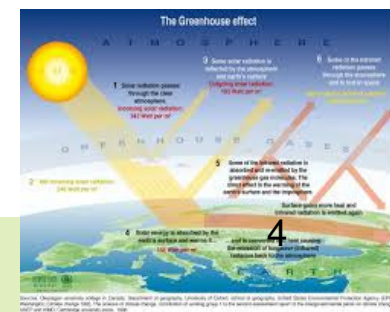
- ➔ Why LIFE?
- ➔ LIFE - then and now
- ➔ LIFE 2014-2020 What stays?
- ➔ LIFE 2014-2020 New elements
- ➔ New Priorities & Focus
- ➔ Stronger Emphasis on...
- ➔ New tools





# Why LIFE?

- It is the only EU financial instrument **fully dedicated to the environment**
- LIFE is a catalyst:** it provides a **platform** for the development and exchange of best practices and knowledge thereby improving, catalysing and accelerating changes
- LIFE** is the ideal instrument to show to authorities and enterprises the benefits of investing in the environment sector and incentivising them to **develop strategic frameworks for spending.**
- LIFE** has been **successfully tested since 1992:** positive feed-back and final evaluation of LIFE+.





# LIFE – Then and Now

- ➔ **LIFE 1992-2013:** more than 3100 projects in the fields of
  - ➔ **nature & biodiversity**
  - ➔ other **environmental sectors & governance**
  - ➔ **information**
  
- ➔ **LIFE 2014 to 2020,** two sub-programmes for:
  - ➔ **environment**
  - ➔ **climate action**





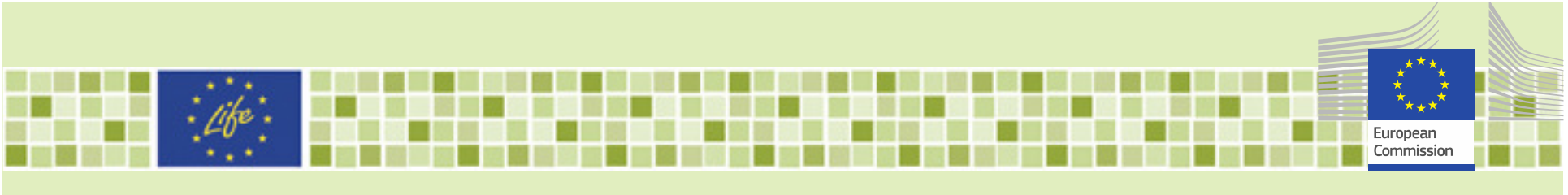
# LIFE 2014-2020 – What stays?

- **Priorities: Environment and resource efficiency (without Climate) (NAT), Nature and Biodiversity (NAT)**
- **Project types: Pilot, demonstration, best practice, information => so called "traditional projects,"**
- **Funding types: Action grants („subvenciones de acciones concretas ") for projects; Operating grants („subvenciones de funcionamiento") for Non-profit Organisations (NPO's)**
- **Funding rate: exceptionally **75%** for **priority** species and habitats in **Natura2000****
- **Actors: beneficiary private companies (mainly SMEs), public authorities, NGOs**
- **Application: **e-Proposal** for "traditional projects"**



# LIFE 2014-2020 – New elements

- **Framework:** Multi-annual work programmes (4+3 year MAWPs) giving **selection framework => direct applications; no annual or national priorities;**
- **Geographical Scope:** Exceptionally outside Union territory or in Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT's)
- **Actors:**
- **EASME** for grants except ENV Integrated Projects
- **EIB/intermediary banks** for financial instruments
- **National Contact Points (NCP)** for counselling and guidance
- **Funding types:** Innovative financial instruments



# LIFE 2014-2020 – New Priorities & Focus

## → Priorities:

→ **Climate change mitigation and adaptation;**

→ **Governance component => from INF to GIE/GIC**

## → Focus:

→ **Thematic priorities and project topics** (temas para proyectos) for **traditional projects** under the **sub-programme for Environment**

## → National allocations:

→ **4-year envelope, only to 2017, only sub-programme for Environment, not IP**





# LIFE 2014-2020 - Stronger emphasis...

## ... on:

- **positive complementarity** between LIFE priorities and strands and other (in)direct Union funding programmes;
- **multi-purpose design** to deliver in several sectors;
- **replication/transfer** preparation as part of the project, reporting in English;
- **outcome indicators** on project level linked to **performance indicators** of the programme
- **long-term sustainability** of outcomes and
- **green procurement** in all projects



## LIFE 2014-2020 New Tools

- **Project types: integrated, technical assistance, capacity building, preparatory, „other“ projects**
- **Funding types: Innovative financial instruments => Natural Capital Financing Facility (NCFF – Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation), Private Finance for Energy Efficiency (PF4EE – Climate Change Mitigation)**
- **Funding rates: max. until 2017: 60% of eligible costs for all except priority species/habitats (75%) and capacity building (100% of eligible costs)**



# (Legal) Structure

- ➔ LIFE 2014-2020 Priority Areas
- ➔ LIFE 2014-2020 Structure
- ➔ LIFE 2014-2020 Legal Framework
- ➔ LIFE 2014-2020 Objectives
- ➔ LIFE 2014-2020 Budget
- ➔ LIFE 2014 Budget





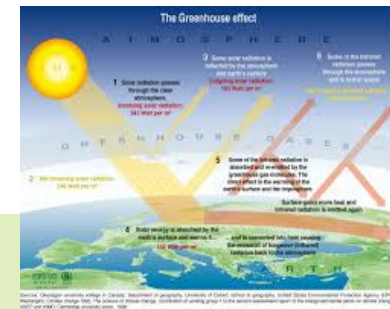
# LIFE 2014-2020 – Priority Areas

## → Sub-programme for Environment

- Environment & Resource Efficiency (**ENV**)
- Nature & Biodiversity (**NAT**)
- Environmental Governance & Information (**GIE**)

## → Sub-programme for Climate Action

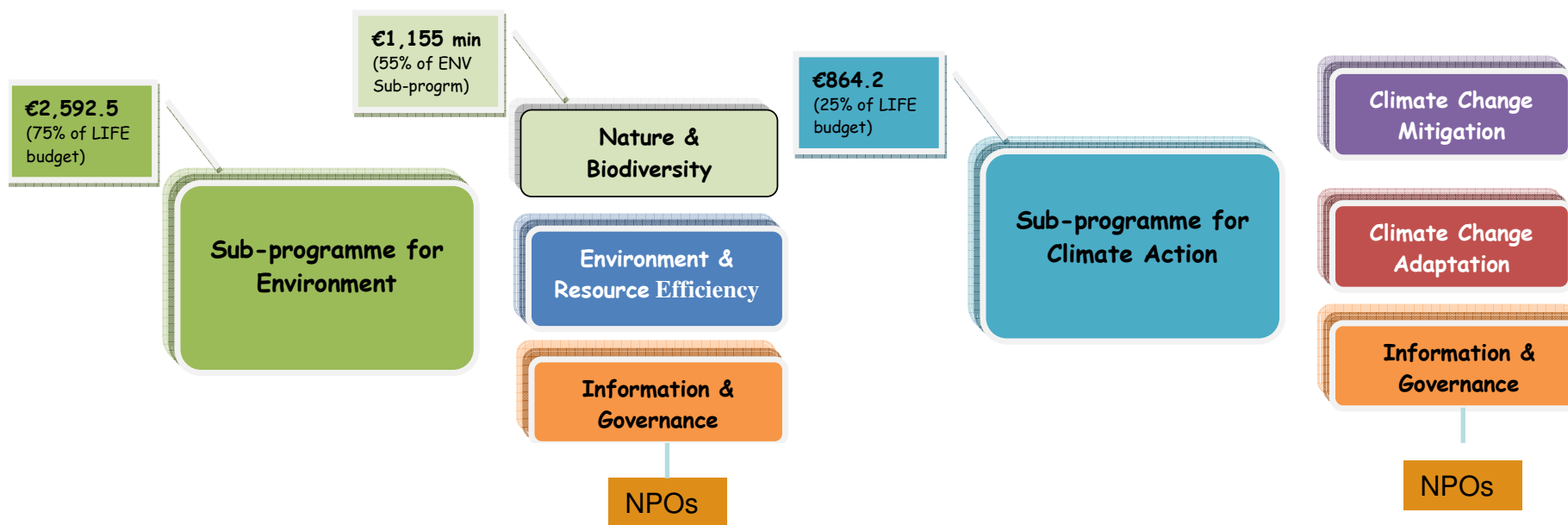
- Climate Change Mitigation (**CMM**)
- Climate Change Adaptation (**CCA**)
- Climate Change Governance & Information (**GIC**)





# LIFE 2014-2020 Structure

**LIFE Programme**  
€3,456.7 (2014-2020)





# LIFE 2014-2020 - Legal Framework

- **The LIFE Regulation** (EU Regulation 1293/2013 of 20/12/2013)
- **The LIFE Multiannual Work Programme 2014-2017** (Commission Decision of 19/03/2014)
  - **Indicative budget** per priority area and types of funding
  - **Selection relevant elements** (project topics, procedure, criteria, indicators) for all projects and operating grants
- **Application and evaluation guidelines**
- Action/Operating **grant agreements** of beneficiaries with the **Agency/Commission** (including **General Conditions**), or **agreements** of recipients **with banks**





# LIFE 2014-2020 – Objectives

- ↴ contribution towards a **resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy**; protecting and improving the **environment**; maintaining and improving **biodiversity**, ecosystems and, in particular, the **Natura 2000 network**
- ↴ **improving the development, implementation and enforcement** of Union environmental and climate policy and legislation
- ↴ **integrating and mainstreaming** of environmental and climate objectives into other Union policies
- ↴ improving environmental and climate **governance**
- ↴ implementing of the **7th Environment Action Programme**



# LIFE 2014-2020 - Budget

- ↴ Total budget of **€3.5 billion**
- ↴ For **projects** funded by action grants and financial instruments:  
**€2.8 billion** (81% of total)
- ↴ **Environment** sub-programme **€2.1 billion** for projects
  - **Nature & Biodiversity** incl. **related governance and information projects and other grants: €1.22 billion** (>55% of the sub-programme for Environment minus financial instruments)
- ↴ **Climate action** sub-programme **€0.69 billion** for projects (€0.47 for action grants)
- ↴ **IPs budget: Max. €741 million, ~€604 million** for the sub-programme for Environment
- ↴ **Operating grants** to environmental and climate **NPOs**  
**€63 million**







# LIFE 2014 - Budget

- ↘ Total budget of **€ 404.6 million**
- ↘ For **projects** funded by action grants and financial instruments: **€324.6 million** (81% of total)
- ↘ Sub-programme for **Environment: €247 million** for projects (~€165.4 for "traditional" projects)
- ↘ **Nature & Biodiversity** including **related governance & information projects and NCFE: € 132.8 million** (> 55% budget of sub-programme for Environment minus financial instruments)
- ↘ Sub-programme for **Climate action: €79.2 million** for **projects** (~€44.3 million for action grants, €35 million for FI)
- ↘ **IP Budget: €61.5 million** - only **sub-programme ENV**
- ↘ **Operating grants** to environmental and climate **NPOs** **€9 million**





# Some more communalities of the LIFE sub-programmes

- General common features
- Geographical scope – interventions
- Geographical scope – beneficiaries
- The new actor EASME





# General Common features of the sub-programmes

- **Stakeholders: Private companies (mainly SMEs), NGO, public administration** active in the field of environment and climate protection
- **Geographical scope** of interventions and origin of beneficiaries
- Emphasis on **replicability/transferability** and **longterm sustainability** of the project results
- **Not focused on research** (⇔ H2020)
- **Not focused on large infrastructure** nor **rural or regional development** (⇔ agricultural, structural funds)
- **Support & monitoring** from EASME or Commission and external monitoring team



# Geographical scope: interventions

## **Principle:**

Applicable **where the Treaty on the** European Union applies

## **Exceptions:**

**Participation of certain Third Countries** possible on the basis and in line with the **conditions** of a **cooperation agreement** (Article 5); or

**Outside the Union**, but **necessary for effectiveness** of measures inside the Union ***and*** **coordinating beneficiary inside the Union** (Article 6).



# Possible cross-Union-border issues

- Cross-border river management
- Trans-boundary air pollution
- Management of spread of alien species
- Conservation of migratory species or cross-border habitats
- Activities necessary to improve techniques that will be implemented inside the EU
- Marine litter with origin outside EU



# Geographical scope: beneficiaries

Independent of whether the interventions take place inside or are – exceptionally – eligible outside the Union, beneficiaries established outside the Union can only be eligible if:

- **The coordinating beneficiary is established in the Union** (Article 6), *or*
- It is a case of **cooperation with international organisations, necessary to reach general LIFE objectives** (Article 7).



# The new actor EASME

## Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

- One of the six Executive Agencies of the EU
- Responsible for **managing programmes for the Commission** since 2005...
- ... coupled with **policy feedback and communication of results to the "parent" DGs**
- Programmes managed: **LIFE 2014-2017, CIP Eco-innovation, Intelligent Energy Europe, COSME), Horizon 2020 Energy, Environment and Resources and SME instrument, European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**



# EASME - Managing the LIFE programme

- **What?** Projects **LIFE 2014-2020**, **not the LIFE legacy, 2014-2017** **not integrated, technical assistance or preparatory projects,**
- **As of when?** ~after the evaluation of the 2014 Call (earlier for NPO grants and Capacity Building)
- **Who?** EASME Unit "**LIFE and CIP Eco-innovation**", a team of **~35** project and financial officers with project management experience and technical background
- **How?** Continue work **with an external monitoring team**, take over the **role of DG Environment technical and financial desk officers**; try to **simplify** where possible (e.g. the new General Conditions set a higher threshold for moves within the project budget)
- **Responsibilities:** technical and financial programme management; policy feedback and communication of results to DG ENV and CLIMA

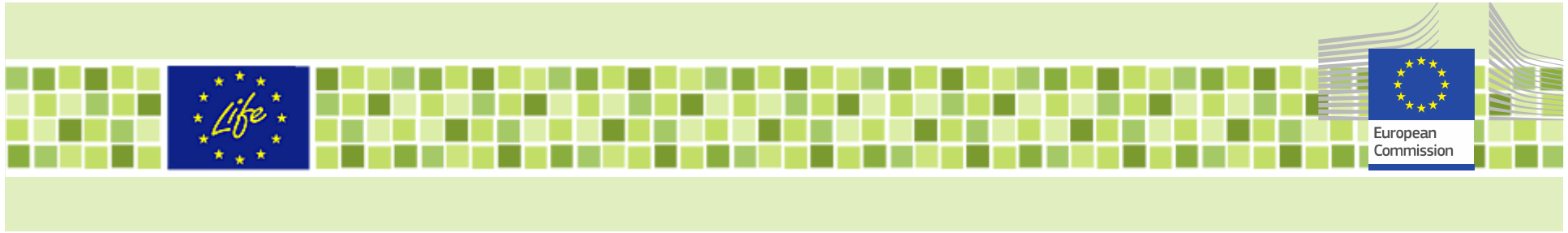




# The new focus on Climate Action

- The priority areas in detail
- Funding types
- Focus of the call





# Thank you for your attention!

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

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