

LIFE+ in the UK

Richard Findon
UK LIFE Policy Lead

Our National Contact Point

- Contracted to Defra 2010 - 2013
- Appointed in 2007 by Defra as LIFE+ National Contact Point
- EC Framework Programme NCP many years for Defra/MAFF
- Contracted by Government (TSB, Defra, FSA) to provide NCP services for range of FP7 themes

National Contact Point

- Helpline open Monday to Friday
- Advise on the components of the programme
- Provide advice on EC guidance documents
- Training workshops and webinars
- Project concept check
- Pre-screening of proposals

Proposal Pre-screening in 2012

- Submission to Beta by 17th August for response before 7th September
- Email a pdf version of your eProposal to:

life@betatechnology.co.uk

Typical Enquiries

- Initial feedback on project concept and fit
- Eligibility of specific costs e.g. civil servant salaries, depreciation, land purchase
- Legal constitution of organisations
- Duplication and conflicting projects
- Financial viability, bank guarantees etc.
- Responding to EC's revision questions



BetaEurope

BetaEurope is a free and confidential support service for LIFE+ and Framework Programme Seven (Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and Biotechnology and Environment themes) in the UK. Beta Technology runs this service on behalf of Defra (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) and the FSA (Food Standards Agency).

BetaEurope provides information about FP7 together with the LIFE+ programme and its application process. It also details the help and support services that are available.



Framework Programme Seven (FP7)

FP7 is an European Union scheme that funds research and scientific activities in several topic areas. It has a budget of over €50 billion to be spent over seven years and is one of the biggest research funding programmes in the world. To find out more, please click [here](#).



LIFE+

LIFE+ is the only European Union funding programme that targets only the environment. It has a seven year budget of over €2 billion and funds conservation actions and activities that contribute to climate change, nature and bio-diversity, health and quality of life and natural resources and waste. To find out more, please click [here](#).

Help and Support

Beta Technology's National Contact Point service includes a helpline, pre-screening of proposals for eligibility and fit, partner searching and advice on administrative and contractual issues. Beta also acts as the administrator for receiving LIFE+ applications on behalf of Defra. For further information on the support and advice on offer, please click [here](#).

Latest BetaEurope News

2012 LIFE+ call opens

EU Research Funding Reaches 15% Target for SMEs

New FP7 Service for Rule Interpretation Issues

Horizon 2020: Commission Proposes €80 Billion Investment in Research & Innovation

LIFE+ Beyond 2013

How to Fail at FP7 - read a summary of the seminar by one of the attendees

To read more, please click [here](#).

Latest eBulletin Newsletters

To view the latest copies of our monthly eBulletin, please click on one of the links below. If you would like to subscribe, please click [here](#).

- [March 2012](#)
- [February 2012](#)
- [January 2012](#)

LIFE+

What is LIFE+?



What is LIFE+

LIFE+ is the EC's financial instrument supporting environment and nature conservation projects throughout the EU. Since 1992, LIFE has co-financed 3115 projects, contributing approximately €2bn to the protection of the environment. It is the only financial instrument aimed purely at improving the environment and is complementary to the other Community research programmes (such as FP7), the structural funds (such as ERDF) and other rural development programmes.

LIFE+ closely supports the 6th Environment Action Plan (6EAP), adopted by the European Parliament on 22nd July 2002, which sets out the framework for environmental policy-making in the European Union for the period 2002-2012 and outlines actions that need to be taken to achieve them. The areas of the 6EAP that LIFE+ supports are:

- Climate change
- Nature and bio-diversity
- Health and quality of life
- Natural resources and waste

What Will LIFE+ Fund?

LIFE+ funds projects that implement, update and develop Community environmental policy and legislation. More specifically it directly supports projects that contribute to the delivery or improvement of the Natura 2000 Network, the Birds and Habitats Directives (and the species listed within the annexes of these Directives) and the Communication called 'Halting the loss of Biodiversity 2010 and beyond' which can be found on the Commission's website. Projects contributing to the delivery of the Environmental Technologies Action Plan are also sought by the Commission.

The Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP) is intended to make eco innovation an everyday reality throughout Europe. The plan was adopted by the Commission in 2004 to cover a wide range of activities promoting eco innovation and use of environmental technologies. Its objective is to improve European competitiveness in this area, and enable the EU to become the recognised world leader.



The 2012 LIFE+ Call for Proposals was published by the European Commission.

The sixth LIFE+ call for proposals was published on 13 March 2012, with up to €276 million available for co-financing of projects under three headings: Nature and biodiversity; Environment policy and governance; and Information and communication.

Project proposals should be sent to the relevant national authority no later than 26 September, 2012. National authorities will then send them to the European Commission by 2 October, 2012.

Please note that applicants must only use the eProposal tool to create and submit proposal(s) under the 2012 LIFE+ Call for Proposals. For further information on the call, please click [here](#).

As part of the 2012 call, we are looking into the possibility of holding a LIFE information day. However, you are advised not to delay preparations for your 2012 proposals.

LIFE+ 2011 Bid selection.

We have been notified from the Commission that revision questions for proposals still being considered under the 2011 call should be sent out on Friday 23 March. Please ensure that you check mailboxes and respond to the correct address as stated on the Commission's e-mail, which may not necessarily be the same one that it was sent from.

Life post 2014 – an update.

The negotiations on the successor regulation to LIFE+ from 2014 to 2020 are continuing. An Environment Council orientation debate was held on 9 March focussing on the specific issues of geographical balance and simplification, including co-financing. Please click [here](#) for the online recorded version. The UK intervention is at around 22.00.

Further details are available on the European Commission's website. Please click [here](#) to access information, including the proposal itself, an explanatory memorandum, a citizen's summary, and a memo which provides a summary of the key changes.

If you have any comments or questions you would like to feed in to Defra who are leading the negotiations for the UK, please click [here](#).

eBulletin

The Voices of LIFE celebrate 20 years.

The latest LIFE Focus publication is a special edition to mark the 20th anniversary of the LIFE programme in

Useful Information

- LIFE Regulations (EC 614/2207)
- Guide for applicants
- Common provisions
- Evaluation guide
- LIFE+ website - <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life>
- LIFE+ project database -
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>
- LIFE+ best projects -
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/bestprojects/index.htm>

20 YEARS
 1992-2012
 LIFE

LIFE by theme

- Nature, Biodiversity
- Environment

LIFE search

- By country
- Project database
- Best projects
- Project publications



LIFE Community forum

Home | Toolkit | FAQs

Questions and Answers about the LIFE programme

This page features some Frequently Asked Questions asked by people who may already be involved or are interested in becoming involved in the LIFE programme. If you have consulted the relevant documents on this website and still have unanswered questions about such things as the rules governing LIFE, LIFE project management or reporting to the EC, you may find here the information you are looking for. In addition, potential applicants for LIFE+ funding might also be interested in consulting a further list of Frequently Asked Question arising from the LIFE+ workshops in the Member States. If you do not find the information you are looking for in any of these sources, please contact your national contact points.

Please note that the information on this page is provided for information and guidance purposes only and has no legal force whatsoever. The only legally binding texts are Regulation (EC) No 614/2007 of May 2007 concerning the Financial Instrument for the Environment, the Commission Decision/Grant agreements with the project beneficiaries, and the **LIFE + Standard Agreement and Common Provisions**.

New questions and answers will be added to this page on a regular basis as they become available.

Please note that the "beneficiary" and the "partners" in LIFE III are now called "coordinating beneficiary" and "associated beneficiaries" in LIFE + (see the Common Provisions for a description of their roles and responsibilities). When "beneficiary" is mentioned without further specification, it refers to both the coordinating beneficiary and all associated beneficiaries / partners.

General

- [What is the deadline for new applications?](#)

- Project administration LIFE+
- Project administration LIFE
- Communication tools
- FAQs

LIFE+ workshops, which are reproduced below, various workshops were identical or nearly

on the basis of the contents of a submitted proposal, which remain the basis on which

and "associated beneficiaries" in LIFE + (see the without further specification, it refers to both the

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1. General / miscellaneous issues
2. Financial / Administrative issues
3. LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity
4. LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance
5. LIFE+ Information and Communication

1. General/miscellaneous issues

Question	Answer
What is considered a transnational project? Is it a project that involves more than one country as a territory of application? Or is it a project that the participants are of more than one country?	A project is considered transnational when there are beneficiaries from more than 1 EU Member State and hence costs are incurred in several EU Member States.
Do trans-national proposals have better success rates?	Not necessarily. Just note that they obtain a few more points in evaluation if there is an added value in their transnational character.
What percentage of the projects selected from the 2007 call were transnational projects (compared to the 15% target)	Roughly 30%, which is in line with past averages. Note that, also in line with the past, LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance includes more transnational projects.
For the transnational projects, is there a list for interested bodies to form a partnership?	No.

NCP Contact Details

life@betatechnology.co.uk

01302 322633

www.betaeurope.co.uk