The LIFE Programme is the EU’s funding instrument for the environment and climate action. It contributes to the implementation, updating and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation by co-financing projects.
General Objectives

- Resource-efficient, low-carbon, climate-resilient economy
- Protect & improve the quality of the environment
- Halt & reverse biodiversity loss
- Develop, implement & enforce Union’s environmental and climate policy
- Integrate & mainstream environmental and climate objectives into other Union policies and public & private sector practice

Better environmental and climate governance at all levels, incl. better involvement of civil society, NGOs & local actors

Support the implementation of the 7th Environment Action Programme
What does LIFE look for?

- It does **not** focus on research (≠ H2020)
- It does **not** finance large infrastructure (≠ European structural and investment funds-ESIF)
  - Projects are encouraged to coordinate with ESIF to create synergies
- EC contribution:
  - **55%** of total eligible costs (ENV, GIE, CCA, CCM, GIC)
  - **60%** of total eligible costs (NAT)
    - up to 75% for specific Nature & Biodiversity projects
- Strong emphasis on:
  1. Long-term **sustainability**
  2. **Replicability** and **transferability**
  3. **Impact** (quantified ‘impact indicators’)
General characteristics

- Eligible types of beneficiaries: Public entities, NGOs, SMEs
- Average number of beneficiaries per project: 4-5 (all contribute financially)
- Possibility to implement actions/include beneficiaries in non-EU countries under certain conditions
- Average eligible budget: 1.5 - 3 million €
- General and specific objectives & thematic priorities
- Types of projects - pilot, demonstration, best practice, information
LIFE Programme Structure

- **3.456,7 million € [2014-2020]**
- **2 sub-programmes**
  - **Environment (75%)**
    - 60.5% Nature/Biodiversity (2018-2020)
  - **Climate Action (25%)**
    - > 413 million € (2018-2020)
In the period 1992-2013, LIFE has co-financed 4,171 projects with 3.1 billion contribution.

For the 2014-2020 funding period, LIFE will contribute approximately €3.4 billion to the protection of the environment and climate action.
There are LIFE 8 projects related to legislative enforcement in the period 2010-2018 with total budget of €10.2 million.

These projects were implemented or are ongoing in Spain, Italy, Slovenia, Poland, UK and Austria.
Since the launch of the LIFE Programme by the European Commission in 1992 and until 2018, a total of 254 projects have been co-financed with a Greek beneficiary as a Coordinator.

The total investment of these projects amounts to €388.1 million, of which the EU's contribution is €212.1 million.
## LIFE Programme in Greece (1992-2018)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Programme</th>
<th>Number of projects</th>
<th>Percent of total</th>
<th>Total budget</th>
<th>EC contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>190,786,258</td>
<td>89,472,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATURE/BIODIVERSITY</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>107,329,228</td>
<td>72,706,252</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLIMATE ACTION</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>46,118,442</td>
<td>24,198,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND INFORMATION</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>10,305,351</td>
<td>5,608,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTEGRATED PROJECT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>31,189,548</td>
<td>18,533,169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAPACITY BUILDING</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>1,304,708</td>
<td>953,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>1,120,000</td>
<td>672,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>254</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>388,153,536</strong></td>
<td><strong>212,144,763</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Database of LIFE projects - European Commission, interpreted by the Greek LIFE Task Force*
There are **39 projects** with Greek beneficiaries as coordinators that are in progress with a total budget of **€ 108.5 million**, of which the EU's contribution is **€ 64.9 million**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Programme</th>
<th>No. of projects</th>
<th>Total budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>€31,189,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENV &amp; RE</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>€28,675,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAT/BIO</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>€21,277,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>€20,034,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIE</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>€4,914,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAP</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>€1,304,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>€1,120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>39</strong></td>
<td><strong>€108,516,347</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GREEN FUND is a funding organisation

Public Body, supervised by the Ministry of Environment and Energy founded in 2010
Scope

✓ Enhance development through environmental protection,
✓ Support the country's environmental and energy policy
✓ Serve public and social interests through the management of GF resources
Resources

- Fines from environmental offences in the urban, rural & marine areas
- Revenues (e.g. from Special Forest Entity)
- GF Resources: M.D. 4503/2012
Green Fund Resources are made available through planning and implementation of Funding Programmes for the:

• protection
• enhancement &
• restoration

of the natural and urban environment in the framework of the National Environmental Strategy priorities.
Funding Programmes are structured in:

- Priority Pylons
- Measures
- Actions

The following elements are defined in the Programmes:

- the Beneficiaries
- the Funding Amount
- the Eligibility Criteria

Transparency is ensured throughout the selection process.
2018 Budget

98 million €

Each year only the 2.5% of the available balance is accessible per utilization, sets by the current legislation.
2018 Funding Programmes

- Protection of the Marine Environment & Prevention of the Marine Pollution (Blue Fund)
- Forest Protection & Restoration
- Natural Protected Areas
- Natural Environment & Innovative Actions
- European Programme LIFE
- Environmental Balance
2018 Funding Programme:

- **Environmental Balance**  38 m €

  - Actions for improving Urban Environment
    - Beneficiaries: Municipalities
  
  - Actions targeting Urban & Rural abnormalities / deviations (e.g. removing polluting materials, demolishing illegally constructed structures / buildings)
    - Beneficiaries: Regional Administrations
European Programme LIFE - 2 m €

- GF as Coordinator – Capacity Building
- GF as Beneficiary of LIFE Programs
- Part of National Contribution in E.U. approved projects
**Capacity Building project:**
provides financial support to activities required to build the capacity of Member States, with a view to enabling Member States to participate more effectively in the LIFE Programme

**Duration:**
01/01/2016 – 30/04/2019*

**Budget:**
Total amount: € 1,304,708
Requested EC funding: € 953,600

**Beneficiaries:**
**Green Fund**, Coordinating Beneficiary
**Ministry of Environment and Energy**, Associated Beneficiary
- Inform potential beneficiaries
- **Support** in the preparation of proposals
- Provide technical assistance & consulting to potential beneficiaries
- **Promote** the exchange of experiences and best practices
- **Enhance** the uptake of LIFE projects results
- **Operate** the platform on LIFE in Greece
- **Enhance** the operation of the LIFE National Contact Points

More efficient participation of Greece in the LIFE programme
Thank you for your attention!

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