Title
Nature and Biodiversity
Funding Instrument
LIFE PROGRAMME
Code
LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT-NATURE
General Information
Projects should fall under at least one of the two areas of intervention: – **Intervention area: "Space for Nature"** Any project aimed at improving the condition of species or habitats through areabased conservation or restoration measures falls within the eligible scope of the intervention area "Space for Nature". This may include, for example, projects for restoring or improving natural or semi-natural habitats, or habitats of species, both within and outside existing protected areas. This may also include projects for creating additional protected areas (or improving the biodiversity focus and contribution of existing protected areas), ecological corridors or other green infrastructure, projects testing or demonstrating new site management approaches, projects acting on pressures, etc. – **Intervention area: "Safeguarding our species"** Any project aimed at improving the condition of species (or, in the case of invasive alien species, reducing their impact) through any relevant activities other than area-based conservation or restoration measures falls within the scope of the intervention area "Safeguarding our species". Considering the broad range of threats that may act on species in addition to the degradation of their habitats, such projects may apply to a wide range of relevant measures, spanning from hard infrastructural works to awareness raising of stakeholders. Applicants are should take into account, when conceiving their project applications, that only wild flora and fauna and natural and semi-natural habitats may be targeted by LIFE Nature and Biodiversity projects.
Objectives
Under both areas of intervention, having clearly defined specific outcome-based biodiversity-related objectives for projects and their activities is a pre-condition for an objective prioritization of the proposals. In order to allow for effective comparison of merits of proposals addressing different nature and biodiversity policy priorities the following principles will be applied for the prioritisation in terms of outcome-based targets under the two areas of intervention:

– For proposals targeting species and habitats covered by the EU Habitats Directive, priority is given to those that are clearly targeting habitats or species in unfavourable and declining conservation status based on the latest Article 17 reports assessments (https://natureart17.eionet.europa.eu/article17/), in particular when their status is unfavourable bad and declining (U2-) both in the EU and at national biogeographical region(s) level, where the project is taking place6 .

– For bird species, and for species and habitats not covered by EU Nature legislation, priority is given to proposals clearly targeting species or habitats that are in higher extinction risk categories (in particular: endangered or worse) in the relevant EU red lists of habitats or species (or, for EU Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories, in the Global IUCN red lists).

Further prioritisation of the proposals and the related policy priorities are enlisted in the Call document

Link with CMA Goals

Goal I: Healthy marine and coastal ecosystems / **Priority 1**: Ensure the protection and sustainability of the marine ecosystem

Deadline for submission

30 November 2021 – 17:00:00 CET

Project duration

Indicative project duration: between 36 and 84 months (extensions are possible, if duly justified and through an amendment).

Financial allocation

Indicative range of Project budgets: 2-13 milion EUR
Maximum 60% funding rate (or higher for certain types of projects

Partnership

Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Ukraine

Eligible partners/key conditions

1. Admissibility conditions: described in section 5 of the call document

Proposal page limits and layout: described in Part B of the Application Form available in the Submission System

2. Eligible countries: described in section 6 of of the call document

3. Other eligibility conditions: described in section 6 of the call document

4. Financial and operational capacity and exclusion: described in section 7 of the call document

5. Evaluation and award:

- Award criteria, scoring and thresholds: described in section 9 of the call document
- Submission and evaluation processes: described in sections 8 and 11 of the call document and the Online Manual
- Indicative timeline for evaluation and grant agreement: described in section 4 of the call document

6. Legal and financial set-up of the grants: described in section 10 of the call document

Sector of activity
Nature and biodiversity; Environment and Climate Change
Further Info
Call document Standard application form — *call-specific application form is available in the Submission System*