

<u>Title</u>
SGA LIFE operating grants
<u>Funding Instrument</u>
LIFE PROGRAMME
<u>Code</u>
LIFE-2021-NGO-OG-SGA
<u>General information</u>
This call for proposals concerns LIFE Specific Operating Grant Agreements (SGA OG). LIFE Specific Operating Grant Agreements will be concluded with organisations that have successfully signed a LIFE 2021 Operating Grant Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA OG). Framework Partnership Agreements (FPAs) under the LIFE Programme are long-term cooperation instruments that serve as umbrella for regular or recurrent grants to nonprofit making entities which are involved in the development, implementation and enforcement of EU legislation and policy and which are primarily active in the field of environment or climate action, including energy transition, in line with the objectives of the LIFE Programme. They are a prerequisite for being able to sign annual Specific Operating Grant Agreements (SGAs), but do not create any legitimate expectations or entitlement to get them. Framework Partnership Agreements that will be concluded following the 2021 Call for Proposals for LIFE Operating Grant Framework Partnership Agreements will cover the following three financial years of beneficiary organisations (i.e. FY 2022, FY 2023 and FY 2024). Specific Operating Grant Agreements (SGAs) will be awarded on an annual basis following a call or invitation to submit a proposal addressed to the framework partners. SGA OG can only be signed if an FPA has been signed, and before the end date of that FPA. In 2021, due to time constrains, the calls for LIFE Operating Grant Framework Partnership Agreements and the call for LIFE Specific Operating Grant Agreements addressed to framework partners are launched in parallel. Applicants must first complete the Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) application, and then use the FPA application reference number in their Specific Operating Grant Agreement application form. For further information on the call for 2021 Call for Proposals for LIFE Framework Partnership Agreements please consult call LIFE-2021-NGO-OG-FPA via the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System (accessible via the Topic page in the Search Funding & Tenders section).
<u>Objectives</u>
Objectives The LIFE operating grants for non-profit making entities aim to strengthen the participation of civil society in the EU policy dialogue, as well as to support implementation and enforcement of Union environmental and climate objectives by the beneficiaries. The present call for proposals targets

operating grants aimed at achieving the objectives of the Environment, Nature, Climate and Clean Energy Transition LIFE sub-programmes.

Scope

Operating grants provide general financial support to the successful organisations. They do not support a specific project (like action grants), but the annual operating budget (or part of it) of the organisation. Operating grants follow the same rules for the grant agreements as action grants, but do not differentiate between direct and indirect costs. Operating grants are always mono-beneficiary grants supporting the annual activities of an organisation. Receiving an operating grant may have an impact on the possibility to receive the indirect costs flat-rate in an EU action grant (see EU Grants AGA — Annotated Grant Agreement, art 6.2.E).

Expected impact

Applicants are expected to explain and define how they will achieve the expected contributions as described under Award criteria 1 to 4 (see section 9). All LIFE projects will have to report on their expected outputs and impacts taking into account the LIFE Key Performance indicators (KPIs). These KPIs will contribute to evaluating the impact of the LIFE project on an environmental but also socioeconomic level (e.g. via actions impacting the local economy and population). Please review the indicators in Part C of the eGrant application and complete them.

[Link with CMA Goals](#)

Goal II: A competitive, innovative and sustainable blue economy for the Black Sea / **Priority 1:** Foster innovative business models, stimulate research and innovation, and sustainable growth and up-to-date jobs

Deadline for submission

28 September 2021

Project duration

36 months

Financial allocation

The total budget earmarked for calls for operating grants under this framework partnership call is EUR 37,110,000, i.e. EUR 12,370,000 per year. Depending on the number and quality of proposals, we expect to sign between 30 and 40 framework partnerships.

Funding rate

For specific operating grants that will be financed in the context of the framework partnership agreements, the amount of the grant will be defined by applying a maximum co-financing rate of 70% to the eligible costs.

The maximum operating grant amount per financial year will be EUR 700 000.

Partnership

Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Ukraine

Eligible partners/key conditions

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: described in section 8 of the [call document](#)

- **Award criteria, scoring and thresholds:** described in section 9 of the [call document](#)
- **Submission and evaluation processes:** described section 8 of the [call document](#) and the [Online Manual](#)
- **Indicative timeline for evaluation and grant agreement:** described in section 4 of the [call document](#)
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Documents

[Call document](#)

[LIFE NGO Framework Partnership Application Form](#) - call-specific application form is available in the Submission System

[LIFE NGO Framework Partnership Agreement](#)

[Multiannual Work Programme for the implementation of the LIFE Programme for the years 2021-2024](#)

[Regulation \(EU\) 2021/783 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action \(LIFE\)](#)

[Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union](#)

[Decision authorising the use of flat-rate financing for operating grants for non-profit entities under the LIFE Programme](#)

<u>Sector of activity</u>
Energy Efficiency; Sustainable energy, Clean Energy Transition
<u>Further Info</u>
Call for tender's page