



# LIFE programme 2014 – 2020

## National Nature Improvement Areas Event

**Amanda Gregory**

**UK LIFE National Contact Point, JNCC**

[UKLIFE@JNCC.gov.uk](mailto:UKLIFE@JNCC.gov.uk)

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/UKLIFE>

**23 February 2016**

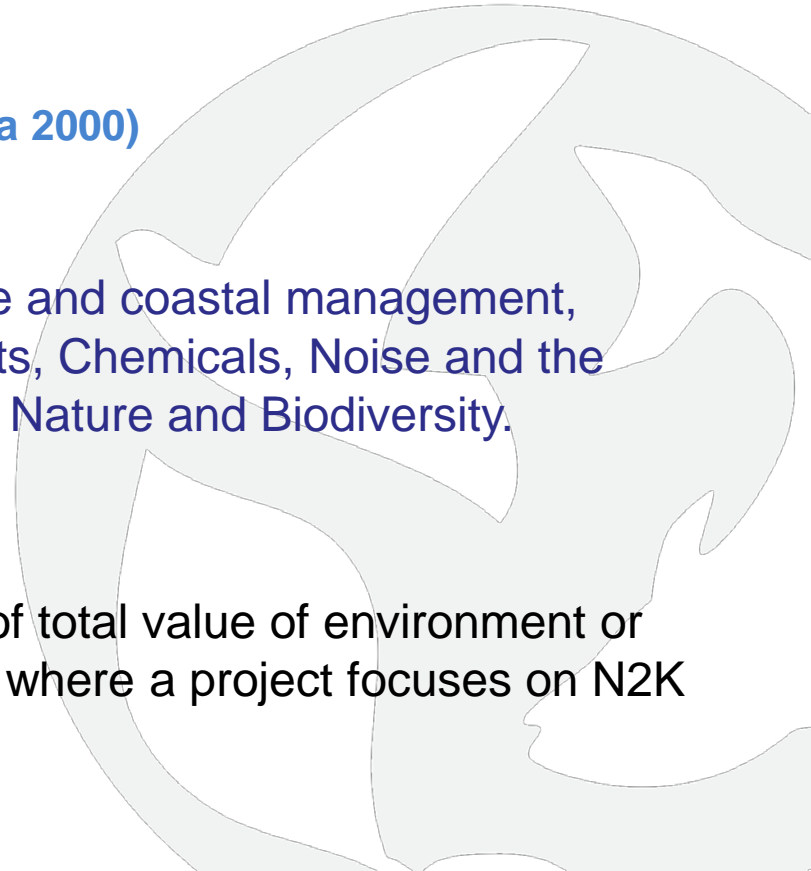




# What is LIFE?

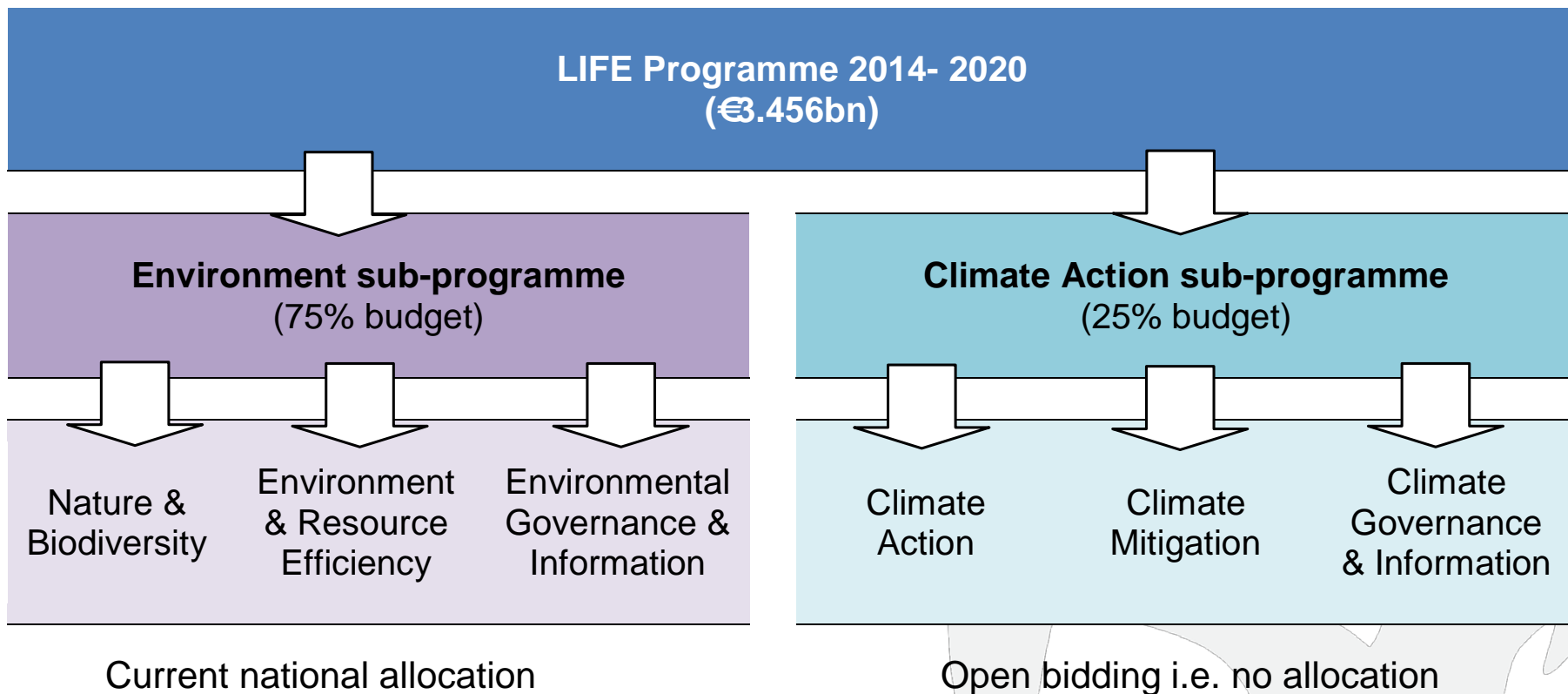


- **The primary EU financial instrument for the environment**
- **Objective:** to contribute towards implementation and development of EU environmental and climate policy and legislation
- LIFE Co-funds:
  - Environmental projects
  - Biodiversity & Nature projects (Natura 2000)
  - Climate Change Action projects
- Includes policy on: Water, Floods, Marine and coastal management, Waste and resource efficiency, Soils, Forests, Chemicals, Noise and the urban environment, Air pollution, Air quality, Nature and Biodiversity.
- Projects can be on land, sea, air
- Small fund – over-subscribed!
- **Match funding** – LIFE will give up to 60% of total value of environment or climate change project (up to 75% in cases where a project focuses on N2K priority species or habitat)





# The LIFE Programme



UK allocation for environment - c €104m for 2014-17. No allocation from 2018.

Integrated Projects

Financial Instruments: Natural Capital Financing Facility (NCFF) and Private Financing for Energy Efficiency (PF4EE)



## LIFE Nature



### Thematic priority:

#### Implementing the Birds and Habitats Directive (Target 1 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy) through:

- Activities aiming to **improve conservation status** of features of Union interest
- Activities to support **bio-geographic seminar** series – Atlantic region
- Activities to implement the **Prioritised Action Framework**
- Best Practice projects - state-of-the-art existing techniques for conservation of species/habitats



# LIFE Biodiversity

## Thematic priority:

Implementing the EU Biodiversity Strategy (EU Biodiversity Strategy Targets 2, 3, 4 and 5) through:

- Maintain and enhance ecosystems and their services
  - Invasive Alien Species
  - Species listed as threatened or worse on Red List (but not on HD annex)
  - Innovative way of direct / indirect financing
  - Green Infrastructure
- **Innovation** is key! Need to apply/test techniques, approaches not used before (across EU), that offers advantages compared to current best practice + capable of EU replicability.





# A few exemplar projects

- **High Nature Value farmland**

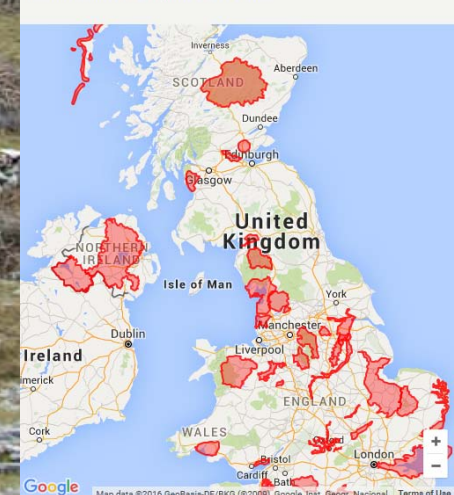
- [BurrenLIFE](#) (Ireland) new model for the sustainable agricultural management of the priority habitats of the Burren (Best LIFE Nature project)

- **Ecological Networks**

- [EcoCo LIFE](#) (EcoCo Scotland) Implementation of integrated habitat networks to improve ecological coherence across the Central Scotland Green Network (CSGN)
- [Futurescapes](#) (Futurescapes,UK) Promoting the development of green infrastructure in 34 priority areas throughout the UK

Futurescapes map

Click the areas on the map to find out more.



## **MoorLIFE 2020 project** LIFE14 NAT/UK/000070

- **Largest award ever given by EU LIFE Programme to a UK conservation project**
- Duration 01 October 2015 to 28 February 2021
- Total budget €16,046,116.00
- EU contribution €12,034,587.00

Aims to conserve and protect the priority active blanket bog habitat within the South Pennine Moors' Natura 2000 site and the ecosystem services it provides.





## Common queries for LIFE Nature & Biodiversity

- Can we carry out work outside Natura 2000 sites for LIFE Nature projects? **Yes – if long term safeguards**
- Is it possible to purchase land? **Yes – if no alternative**
- Will LIFE co-finance large infrastructure projects?  
**Occasionally – under duress**
- What are the key differences between LIFE and the Heritage Lottery Fund? **HLF needs more public engagement, LIFE requires concrete actions**
- Do I need a partner from another country to be transnational? **Transnational projects welcomed IF fits within the project objective**





# Integrated Projects

- New innovation for 2014-20 programme (30% action grants ring fenced)
- **Comprehensive implementation on large territorial scale - regional, multi-regional, national or trans-national – of environmental or climate plans or strategies required by specific Union environmental or climate legislation**
- Limited to **four specific environmental areas** requiring strategic plans - **nature, air, water and waste** (not marine) + **Climate action**
- Member States entitled to minimum of 3 over 7 year period; one on **Environment**, one on **Nature & Biodiversity**, one on **Climate Change mitigation and adaptation**
- Funding of up to €10m & last up to 10 years
- Ensure supplementary funding for **complementary actions mobilising other EU funds** (e.g. rural development funds, structural funds, Horizon 2020) or private sector for a sustainable outcome.



# Integrated Projects

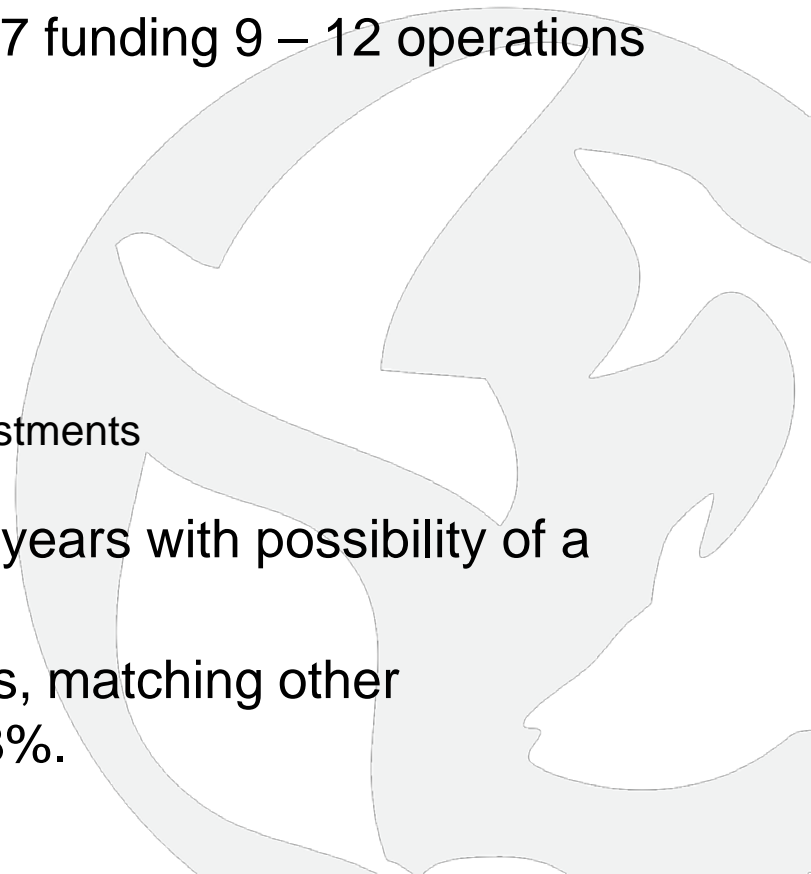


- **IP Environment:** *Contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the: Water Framework Directive by implementing all or part of a River Basin Management Plan; or Air Directive by implementing Air Quality Plans.*
  - UK success IP Environment: North West England River Basin Management Plan
- **IP Nature:** *Contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives (Natura 2000 network) and to achieving target 1 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy by implementing the Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAFs), which are priorities for managing and implementing the Natura 2000 network.*
- **IP Climate:** *implementing climate action plans, strategies or roadmaps required by specific Union climate legislation, [...] developed by Member States' authorities, primarily in the areas of climate change mitigation and adaptation, while ensuring involvement of stakeholders and promoting the coordination with and mobilisation of at least one other relevant Union, national or private funding source*



# Natural Capital Financing Facility

- Implemented through the European Investment Bank
- Test and demonstrate innovative financing approaches for the preservation of natural capital and adaptation to climate change.
- €100 - €125 million to be invested by 2017 funding 9 – 12 operations between €5 - €15 million per project.
- Projects
  - Payments for Ecosystem Services
  - Green Infrastructure
  - Biodiversity offsets
  - Innovative pro-biodiversity and adaptation investments
- Up to 75% of total project costs, up to 10 years with possibility of a five year extension.
- The NCFE may also invest in equity funds, matching other contributions to the maximum share of 33%.





## LIFE call 2016

- Expected May 2016
- **Traditional projects will continue to have staggered different submission deadlines per priority area.**

### **Traditional projects submitted through eProposal with a total indicative budget of €239,000,000**

Climate (all objectives: CCA, CCM and GIC) – 07-Sept-2016

Environment (ENV and ERE) – 12-Sept-2016

Environment (NAT and GIE) – 15-Sept 2016

- Preparatory Projects Environment\* - 20-Sep-16 €1,920,000
- Technical Assistance Projects Environment - 20-Sep-16 €800,000
- Technical Assistance Projects Climate - 20-Sep-16 €160,000
- Integrated Projects Environment - 26-Sep-16 €79,200,000
- Integrated Projects Climate - 26-Sep-16 €16,000,000



# Essential Reading



- LIFE Orientation document (is LIFE for you)
  - [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/life2014/call/documents/2014\\_orientation\\_doc.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/life2014/call/documents/2014_orientation_doc.pdf)
- LIFE Multi Annual Work Programme (read, read and read again)
  - [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:JOL\\_2014\\_116\\_R\\_0001](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:JOL_2014_116_R_0001)
- LIFE annual call (link to 2015 - 2016 call due in May)
- 2015 Guidelines for Applicants
  - [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/toolkit/pmtools/life2014\\_2020/guidelines.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/toolkit/pmtools/life2014_2020/guidelines.htm)

## **Check your project has not be done before!**

- European Commission LIFE website  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/index.htm>
- EC LIFE Project Database
  - <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm>





# Essential reading



- LIFE and new partnerships for nature conservation  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/publications/lifepublications/lifefocus/documents/stakeholders.pdf>
- LIFE Best of the Best LIFE projects for your strand
- Relevant scientific papers
- UK Prioritised Action Framework  
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6934>
- Article 17 reports  
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6387>  
[http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article\\_17/Reports\\_2013](http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article_17/Reports_2013)
- Article 12 Reports  
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=6526>  
[http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article\\_12/Reports\\_2013](http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article_12/Reports_2013)





# UK LIFE National Contact Point

- Helpline – 01733 562626 or [UKLIFE@jncc.gov.uk](mailto:UKLIFE@jncc.gov.uk)
- Advise on the components of the programme
- Provide advice on EC guidance documents
- Project concept check
- Pre-screening of proposals
- Training workshops and webinars
- **Upcoming events**
  - 29 February 2016 LIFE Information Day, Belfast
  - 1-2 March 2016 Log Frame training, Belfast
  - 14-15 March 2016 Log Frame training in Cardiff
  - May 2016 Application writing workshop





# UK LIFE National Contact Point

JNCC is a statutory adviser to UK Government and devolved administrations

[text only](#) | [print](#) | [jobs](#) | [publications](#) | [sitemap](#) | [privacy and cookies](#)



Google™ Custom Search   x  
powered by Google™



- European
- ▼ UK LIFE National Contact Point
  - ▶ LIFE Process
  - ▶ Application writing
  - News & Events
  - Newsletters
  - ▶ What we do
  - ▶ Wales LIFE
  - ▶ European Legislation
  - ▶ European Reporting
  - ▶ EU Biodiversity Policy

## UK LIFE National Contact Point



JNCC are the new UK LIFE National Contact Point (NCP) from 01 January 2016.

**This is the indicative plan for the 2016 LIFE call we anticipate will be launched on 19 May 2016.**

Traditional projects will continue to have staggered different submission deadlines per priority area.

Traditional projects submitted through eProposal with a total indicative budget of €239,000,000  
Climate (all objectives: CCA, CCM and GIC) – 07-Sept-2016  
Environment (ENV and ERE) – 12-Sept-2016  
Environment (NAT and GIE) – 15-Sept-2016

Preparatory Projects Environment\* - 20-Sep-16 €1,920,000  
Technical Assistance Projects Environment - 20-Sep-16 €800,000  
Technical Assistance Projects Climate - 20-Sep-16 €160,000  
Integrated Projects Environment - 26-Sep-16 €79,200,000  
Integrated Projects Climate - 26-Sep-16 €16,000,000

\* There will be no Preparatory project call under the Climate sub-programme for 2016

Pre-screening deadlines

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/UKLIFE>

- Latest programme and call news
- Register for eNews
- Presentations from events and workshops
- Tips and advice
- Concept note template



## Contact us



01733 562626

UKLIFE@JNCC.gov.uk

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/UKLIFE>

## Follow us on:



@UKLIFENCP



[EU LIFE Community for the UK](#)

