

EXTRACT FROM THE ANNEX OF COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION C(2017)1634 of 16.3.2017

Financing of the LIFE programme in 2017 and work programme on Union contributions for 2017

INTRODUCTION

On the basis of the objectives provided for in Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹, this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for the year 2017 as shown in table 1.

Moreover, it includes the contributions paid by the Union as subscriptions to international and multilateral environment and climate agreements of which it is a member in accordance with Article 121(2)(d) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council².

Table 1

Actions	Indicative amount in EUR
Grants (1), of which	389 125 000
- call for proposals for integrated projects (1.1)	116 000 000
- call for proposals for traditional projects grants (1.2)	253 870 500
- call for proposals for technical assistance projects (1.3)	1 186 500
- call for proposals for preparatory projects (1.4)	2 088 000
- call for proposals for the European Voluntary Service (1.5)	6 000 000
- call for proposals for operating grants (1.6)	9 000 000
- others	980 000
Procurement (2)	79 326 178
Procurement supporting the development, implementation and communication of the environmental action policies and legislation (2.1)	59 271 383

¹ Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 614/2007 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 185).

² Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1).

Procurement supporting the development, implementation and communication of the climate action policies and legislation (2.2)	20 054 795
Financial instruments (3)	20 000 000
Private financing for energy efficiency (PF4EE) (3.1)	10 000 000
Natural capital financing facility (NCF) (3.2)	10 000 000

1. GRANTS

1.1. ACTION GRANTS FOR INTEGRATED PROJECTS

1.1.1 Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, and in particular Articles 17, 18, 19 and 20 thereof.

1.1.2 Budget Lines and amounts

Budget article 07 02 01 - Contributing to a greener and more resource efficient economy and to the development and implementation of Union environmental policy and legislation - EUR 38 000 000.

Budget article 07 02 02 - Halting and reversing biodiversity loss - EUR 48 000 000.

Budget article 34 02 01 - Reducing of Union greenhouse gas emissions – EUR 15 000 000.

Budget article 34 02 02 - Increasing resilience of the Union to climate change – EUR 15 000 000.

1.1.3 Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

In the framework of the sub-programme for environment, the integrated projects (IP) aim at implementing one of the following environmental plans or strategies required by specific environmental Union legislation, developed pursuant to other Union acts or developed by Member States' authorities:

Natura 2000 network management: Prioritised Action Frameworks

Waste: Waste Management Plans

Water: River basin management plans

Air: Air quality management plans

In the framework of the sub-programme for climate action, the IP aim at implementing or supporting climate change mitigation/adaptation strategies, action plans or roadmaps.

Since the primary aim of IPs is to implement plans and strategies pursuant to applicable Union legislation at the time of the submission of the proposals, they should take into account the latest developments, e.g., in the case of Nature IPs , the results of the mid-term review of the EU biodiversity strategy; in case of IPs dealing with the implementation of waste management plans, the objectives of the new Circular Economy Strategy should be taken into account.

The integrated projects financed under this AWP will be completed in 2020 or later and they are expected to contribute to the achievement of the following outcomes:

Thematic priorities	Quantitative outcomes	Qualitative outcomes
In the framework of the subprogramme for environment		
NATURE	No. of PAFs covered by Nature IPs. % of the Natura 2000 network covered by Nature IPs.	Improving conservation status within the meaning of Council Directive 92/43/EEC ³ and Council Directive 2009/147/EC ⁴ No. of Nature 2000 sites restored or brought to adequate management
WATER	No. of river basin districts (RBD) covered by IPs	Implementation of compliant and efficient river basin management plans (RBMP) in the covered RBD, in conformity with Article 4 of the WFD Additional funding mobilised
WASTE	No. of EU regions covered by waste IPs	Putting in place and implementing compliant and efficient Waste Management Plans (WMP) and/or Waste Prevention Programmes (WPP) in the covered Region, in conformity with Articles 28 and 29 of Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁵ . Additional funding mobilised
AIR	No. of EU regions covered by Air Ips	Compliant and efficient Air Quality Plans and Programmes (AQPP) in the covered Region, in conformity with Article 23 of Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ⁶ on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. Additional funding mobilised
In the framework of the sub-programme for climate change		
MITIGATION	No. and area coverage and citizens reached under climate	Increased no. of Member States/regions

³ Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (OJ L 206, 22.7.1992, p. 7).

⁴ Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (OJ L 20, 26.1.2010, p. 7).

⁵ Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives (OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3).

⁶ Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (OJ L 152, 11.6.2008, p. 1).

	change mitigation strategies or action plans implemented.	<p>applying integrated approaches</p> <p>Tons of greenhouse gasses reduced by new technologies, systems, instruments and/or other best practice approaches developed and taken up</p> <p>Additional funding mobilised</p>
ADAPTATION	<p>No. and area coverage and citizens reached under adaptation strategies or action plans</p> <p>No. of trans-regional or cross-border adaptation projects.</p>	<p>Positive impact on climate resilience</p> <p>Increased No. of MS/regions applying integrated approaches</p> <p>Impact on climate resilience of particularly vulnerable areas identified in the EU Adaptation Strategy.</p> <p>Additional funding mobilised</p>

The priorities for 2017 are the following:

A. Under the sub-programme for Environment

1. *Nature* - IPs dealing with the implementation of Prioritized Framework Programmes (PAF) for NATURA 2000: IPs designed to support the implementation of PAFs pursuant to Article 8 of Directive 92/43/EEC.

The IP should contribute towards achieving target 1 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the general objectives of Directive 92/43/EEC and of Directive 2009/147/EC, and in particular contribute to improving the conservation status of species and habitat types of Union Interest (Directive 92/43/EEC) and/or the status of bird species (Directive 2009/147/EC).

2. *Water* - IP projects implementing river basins management plans (RBMPs): IPs designed to support the implementation of measures in River Basin Management Plans pursuant to Article 4 of Directive 2000/60/EC.

The IP should contribute towards achieving WFD objectives and target significant pressures affecting the environment's capacity for water retention and the use of low impact measures (e.g. green infrastructure) for depollution. The projects should focus on large scale (e.g. sub-catchment or river basin) planning and establishment of measures (e.g. nature-based solutions) to increase water retention in urban and rural areas, enhance infiltration, increase water storage capacity and remove pollutants through natural or "natural-like" processes. They should seek synergies to implement actions that will redress existing hydro morphological pressures and improve biodiversity and amenity value.

3. *Waste* - IP dealing with implementation of waste management plans: The IPs are designed to support the implementation of the Waste Management Plans (WMP) and/or Waste Prevention Programmes (WPP). They should contribute to the implementation of the waste hierarchy (Article 4 of Directive 2008/98/EC), the achievement of the recycling targets as foreseen in Article 11 of Directive 2008/98/EC and additional targets included in the EU waste legislation, as well as the implementation of necessary measures to support those objectives.

4. *Air* - IP dealing with the implementation of air quality plans and programs: The IPs are designed to support the implementation and monitoring of local and regional air quality plans with the ultimate goal of contributing to National Air Pollution Reduction Programmes.

B. Under the sub-programme for Climate Action:

1. **Mitigation** - IP dealing with the implementation of climate change mitigation strategies, plans and roadmaps: The IP supports the implementation of greenhouse gas mitigation strategies, action plans or low carbon economy roadmaps and the implementation and development of the climate change mitigation policy and legislation in general, including the Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷ on EU ETS, the Decision No 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸ (so-called Effort Sharing Decision) for sectors not covered by the EU ETS, the Renewable Energy Sources (RES) Directive⁹, the Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on fluorinated greenhouse gases¹⁰ and the Decision No 529/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council¹¹ governing the inclusion of emissions and removals related to Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF). The IP has to be implemented on a large geographical scale, e.g. in particular, regional, multi-regional, national or transnational. At least one other relevant Union, national or private funding source has to be mobilised to finance complementary action. The EU added value will be assessed with regard to the contribution of the IP to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the level of mainstreaming into different policies, the direct involvement of a LIFE multiannual work programme for 2014-2017 broad range of stakeholders, and the extent to which the IP is an operative part of the strategy/plan/roadmap

2. **Adaptation** - IP dealing with the implementation of climate change adaptation strategies, plans and roadmaps: The IP is designed to implement climate change adaptation strategies, plans or address specific climate change vulnerabilities (e.g. coastal areas, droughtprone areas and other priority areas as identified under Action 2 of the EU Adaptation Strategy). Measures funded from national sources or measures funded from other relevant Union funding programmes should complement the measures to be funded via the LIFE programme in order to implement an overarching adaptation strategy or plan. Support could e.g. be given to flood management in a cross-border river/coastal area or to urban adaptation measures involving several cities. Synergies with other environmental and climate policies should be a central theme of adaptation projects, e.g. climate change adaptation and biodiversity should be promoted, as well as climate change adaptation and health, wherever relevant. EU added value will also be assessed with regard to the contribution of the IP to meeting the EU Adaptation Strategy's objectives[1], the level of mainstreaming into different sectors and the involvement of a broad range of stakeholders.

⁷ Directive 2003/87/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 October 2003 establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading within the Community and amending Council Directive 96/61/EC (OJ L 275, 25.10.2003, p.32).

⁸ Decision No 406/2009/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the effort of Member States to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to meet the Community's greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments up to 2020 (OJ L 140, 5.6.2009, p. 136–148).

⁹ Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC (OJ L 140, 5.6.2009, p. 16–62).

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on fluorinated greenhouse gases and repealing Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 (OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 195–230).

¹¹ Decision No 529/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on accounting rules on greenhouse gas emissions and removals resulting from activities relating to land use, land-use change and forestry and on information concerning actions relating to those activities (OJ L 165, 18.6.2013, p. 80–97).

Urban climate change mitigation and/or adaptation IPs should aim at the implementation of urban action plans implementing the transition to a low carbon and/or climate resilient society in accordance with the Covenant of Mayors and/or Mayors Adapt, incl. e.g. urban transport, energy efficiency, buildings, climate change resilience and /or district heating training, green infrastructure and nature-based solutions.

1.1.4. Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

The call for proposals will fund all the activities related to the definition, revision, implementation or management of environmental and climate plans or strategies, including the involvement of relevant stakeholders and activities aimed at ensuring sustainability and replicability. Beneficiaries will be encouraged to boost strategic investments drawing on the European Fund for Strategic Investments or other sources of finance.

The purchase of land could be financed in line with Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and according to the specific conditions mentioned in this article.

1.1.5. Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

A call for proposals based on a two-stage procedure will be launched.

Applicants will be invited to submit, as part of their candidature, a short concept and strategy note for their integrated projects (IP), outlining the project contents, the plan or strategy it is intended to implement and a financial plan related to its implementation.

Besides the criteria indicated in Article 131.2 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the applications will be assessed on the basis of the following main criteria:

Main eligibility criteria on the applicant	<p>The applicant shall be a legal person registered in the European Union</p> <p>The competent authority or entity responsible for the implementation of the plan or strategy targeted by the proposed integrated project shall participate in the project as beneficiary (coordinating or associated).</p>
Eligibility based on the scope of the proposals ¹²	<p>A proposal shall comply with the following criteria:</p> <p>The proposed action shall cover a large territorial area, in particular, regional, multi-regional, national or trans-national. A multi-city approach may also be acceptable for IP dealing with air quality management, as well as for IP in the climate sub-programme.</p> <p>At least one other relevant Union, national or private funding source shall be mobilised for the implementation of the IP.</p> <p>The key stakeholders shall be involved in the implementation of the IP.</p> <hr/> <p>For the projects under the environment subprogramme:</p> <p>The proposed action shall aim at implementing the following</p>

¹² See Articles 2 and 19 of the Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

	<p>environmental plans or strategies required by specific environmental Union legislation, developed pursuant to other Union acts or developed by Member States' authorities in one of the following areas:</p> <p>Natura 2000 network management: Prioritised Action Frameworks pursuant to Article 8 of Directive 92/43/EEC</p> <p>Waste: Waste Management Plans pursuant to Article 28 of Directive 2008/98/EC.</p> <p>Water: River basin management plans pursuant to Annex VII to Directive 2000/60/EC</p> <p>Air: Air quality plans pursuant to Directive 2008/50/EC</p>
	<p>For the projects under the climate action subprogramme:</p> <p>The proposed action shall aim at implementing or supporting climate change mitigation/adaptation strategies or action plans or roadmaps.</p>

The applicants who comply with the above mentioned criteria and who submitted a proposal within the scope of the call will be identified.

They will be invited :

- to participate in a written "question and answer" phase, which will be organised to give them the possibility to submit questions related to the preparation of the full proposal, and
- to submit a full proposal.

When submitting a full proposal, applicants will be checked against the following criteria:

Exclusion situations	Applicants shall declare on their honour that they are not in one of the situations listed in Articles 106(1) and 107 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012
Selection criteria	<p>Applicants will have to demonstrate a sufficient:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. operational capacity: professional competencies, qualifications and requirements needed to undertake the proposal within stated technical parameters and 2. financial capacity: stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain the activity throughout the period during which the proposal is being carried out and to participate in its funding.

Moreover, applications will be ranked on the basis of a score system based on the following main award criteria:

Criteria	Minimum pass score	Maximum score
1. Technical coherence and quality	10	20
2. Financial coherence and quality	10	20

3. EU added value: extent and quality of the contribution to the objectives	15	20
4. EU added value: extent and quality of mobilisation of other funds, in particular Union funds	-	10
5. EU added value: quality of multipurpose, synergies and integration	7	15
6. EU added value: replicability and transferability	5	10
7. EU added value: transnationality, green procurement, uptake	-	5
Total	55	100

In the framework of the sub-programme for environment, once having ranked the proposals on merit basis, the Commission will define the final list of awarded projects by ensuring the adaptations necessary to comply with:

- the 55% quota of budgetary resources devoted to action grants supporting the conservation of nature and biodiversity in accordance with Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013;
- the geographical balance indicated in Article 19(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

In the framework of the sub-programme for climate action, the proposals will be ranked on merit basis and the best ones will be financed within the limit of the amounts available for this call for proposals.

1.1.6. Implementation

The action financed in the framework of the sub-programme for environment will be implemented in direct management by DG Environment.

The action financed in the framework of the climate action sub-programme will be implemented in direct management by EASME.

Grants awarded shall be covered by a written agreement.

1.1.7. Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the call for proposals

Publication date	May 2017
Closing date for sending concept notes	September 2017
Information to applicants about the results of the evaluation	October 2017
Closing date for sending full proposals proposals to the Commission	March 2018

Award decision and information to the applicants about the results of the evaluation	June 2018
Indicative amount of the call	116 000 000 EUR

Grant agreements will be signed upon successful completion of the award process.

1.1.8. Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

A 60% maximum rate of total eligible costs will be co-financed.

1.2. ACTION GRANTS FOR TRADITIONAL PROJECTS¹³

1.2.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, and, in particular, Articles 17, 18, 19 and 20 thereof.

1.2.2. Budget lines and amounts

Budget article 07 02 01 - Contributing to a greener and more resource efficient economy and to the development and implementation of Union environmental policy and legislation EUR 83 000 000.

Budget article 07 02 02 - Halting and reversing biodiversity loss - EUR 101 860 400.

Budget article 07 02 03 - Supporting better environmental governance and information at all levels - EUR 16 880 100.

Budget article 34 02 01 - Reducing Union greenhouse gas emissions – EUR 21 850 000.

Budget article 34 02 02 - Increasing resilience of the Union to climate change – EUR 25 280 000.

Budget article 34 02 03 - Better climate governance and information at all levels - EUR 5 000 000.

1.2.3. Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The traditional action grants aims at:

- contributing to a greener and more resource efficient economy
- halting and reversing biodiversity loss;
- supporting better environmental and climate governance and information at all levels
- reducing Union greenhouse gas emissions

¹³ Traditional projects include the financing of pilot, demonstration, best practice, and information, awareness, and dissemination projects within the meaning of Article 18 (a), (b), (c) and (h) of the Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

- increasing resilience of the Union to climate change.

They are expected to contribute to the implementation, management and development of Union environmental and climate policy and legislation, including monitoring and evaluation, integration of the environmental and climate objectives into other policies, communication, awareness raising and better governance.

In accordance with Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 on complementarity with other EU funding, proposals dealing with research have to be addressed to the instruments of implementation of Horizon 2020¹⁴. Demonstration and pilot actions submitted to and funded by LIFE must avoid duplication of work and/or double funding with ones submitted to and funded under relevant parts of Horizon 2020, particularly under the Societal Challenge 5 on “Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials” and/or the Cross-cutting focus area on “Smart and Sustainable Cities”.

Complementarity and synergies with Horizon 2020 actions will be assessed in the award criterion "EU added value". Those proposals which demonstrate a clear and important link with the Horizon 2020 funding - e.g. by implementing findings deriving from research financed by the EU budget – will get a marked preference in the ranking system with a view to ease their selection and stimulate the synergies.

The project topics included in the Multiannual Work Programme 2014-2017 and implementing the thematic priorities set out in Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 represent the priorities applicable in the framework of the Environment Sub-Programme for the first four years. A specific focus on some key priorities could be included in the 2017 call for proposals.

The Sub-Programme for Climate Action is expected to address the following:

- Support for implementation of adaptation strategies. This would include specific vulnerability assessments at regional or cross-border levels focusing on highly vulnerable areas such as urban, coastal, mountains and islands, drought prone areas or river-basins as well as implementing innovative adaptation approaches and preparation of specific investment plans.
- Support for pioneering a post carbon society by the integration mitigation/adaptation measures into regional practice, in particular through the deployment of new approaches (model cities or regions) within the objectives of the EU climate and energy package or the Roadmap 2050 targets.
- Demonstration at regional or sub-regional level of low carbon strategies, including mainstreaming of a range of emission reduction and resource efficiency measures across sectors and by using a range of measures to incentivise behavioural change, or land use management plans including land management practices which have an impact on emissions and removals of emissions.

1.2.4. Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

The call for proposals will fund all the activities related to the development, implementation and enforcement of Union environmental and climate legislation and/or able to contribute to the shift

¹⁴ <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html>

towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy, to the protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, to halting and reversing biodiversity loss and to the integration and mainstreaming of environmental and climate objectives into other policies.

The purchase of land could be financed in line with Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and according to the specific conditions mentioned in that Article.

1.2.5. Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Besides the eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria indicated in Articles 131 and 132 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the applications will be assessed on the basis of the following main criteria:

Main eligibility criteria on the applicant and the co-beneficiaries	<p>The coordinating beneficiary shall be a legal person registered in the European Union.</p> <p>The associated beneficiaries shall be a registered legal person. Associated beneficiaries registered in a non-EU country may participate in project actions outside the EU, provided those activities are necessary to achieve Union environmental and climate objectives and to ensure the effectiveness of project actions carried out in Member State territories to which the Treaties apply.</p>		
Eligibility based on the scope of the proposals ¹⁵	<p>A proposal shall comply with the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it contributes to one or several of the general objectives set out in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and to the specific objectives defined in Articles 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, - it falls within the scope of the priority area of the LIFE sub-programme under which the project proposal was submitted, as set out in Articles 9 and 13 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and - it corresponds to one of the project types defined in Article 2(a), (b), (c) and (h) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013. 		
Main selection criteria	<p>The coordinating applicants and associated applicants will have to demonstrate sufficient:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - operational capacity in terms of professional competencies, qualifications and requirements needed to undertake the proposal within stated technical parameters and - financial capacity in terms of stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain the activity throughout the period during which the proposal is being carried out and to participate in its funding. 		
Main award criteria		Min. score	Max score
	1. Technical coherence and quality	10	20

¹⁵ See Articles 2 and 19 of the Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

	2. Financial coherence and quality	10	20
	For the projects under the environment sub-programme		
	3. EU added value: Extent and quality of the contribution to the specific objectives of the priority areas of the LIFE sub-programme for Environment	10	20
	4. Contribution to the project topics	-	10
	For the projects under the climate action sub-programme:		
	3. EU added value: Extent and quality of the contribution to an increased climate resilience and/or to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions	7	15
	4. EU added value: Extent and quality of the contribution to the specific objectives of the priority areas of the LIFE sub-programme for Climate Action	7	15
	5. EU added value: multipurpose, synergies and integration	7	15
	6. EU added value: replicability and transferability	5	10
	7. EU added value: transnational, green public procurement, uptake	-	5
	Total	55	100

Once having ranked the proposals on merit basis, the Commission will define a final list of awarded projects by ensuring the adaptations necessary to comply with the 15 % quota of the budgetary resources to transnational projects according to Art 19(7) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

Moreover, under the sub-programme for environment, adaptations might be necessary to comply with the following:

- the 55 % quota of budgetary resources devoted to action grants supporting the conservation of nature and biodiversity according to Article 9(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and
- the geographical balance indicated in Article 19(5) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

1.2.6. Implementation

This call for proposals is part of the activities delegated to the EASME and will be implemented in direct management by the Agency.

Grants awarded shall be covered by a written agreement.

1.2.7. Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the call for proposals

Publication date	May 2017
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Closing date	August/September 2017
Award decision and information to the applicants about the results of the evaluation	February 2018
Indicative amount of the call	253 870 500 EUR

1.2.8. Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

The maximum cofinancing rate is 60 % of the total eligible costs for all projects.

However, according to Article 20 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, maximum cofinancing rate is 75 % of total eligible costs for projects which, under the priority area Nature and Biodiversity, concern priority habitat or species for the implementation of Directive 92/43/EEC or the species of birds considered as a priority for funding by the Committee for Adaptation to Technical and Scientific Progress when necessary to achieve the conservation objective.

1.3. ACTION GRANTS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

1.3.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, and, in particular, Articles 17, 18, 19 and 20 thereof.

1.3.2. Budget lines and amounts

Budget article 07 02 01 - Contributing to a greener and more resource efficient economy and to the development and implementation of Union environmental policy and legislation EUR 400 000.

Budget article 07 02 02 - Halting and reversing biodiversity loss - EUR 486 500.

Budget article 34 02 01 - Reducing Union greenhouse gas emissions – EUR 150 000.

Budget article 34 02 02 - Increasing resilience of the Union to climate change – EUR 150 000.

1.3.3. Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Technical assistance projects should help applicants preparing integrated projects, and in particular should ensure that those projects comply with the timing, technical and financial requirements of the LIFE Programme in coordination with funds referred to in Article 8(3) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

It is expected to ensure the uptake of 3-4 technical assistance projects under the priority area Nature and Biodiversity, 4-5 technical assistance projects in the priority area Environment and Resource Efficiency and 2-3 under the priority area Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Increasing Resilience to Climate Change.

1.3.4. Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

All the activities necessary to support the capacity of the applicant to submit an integrated project.

1.3.5. Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main eligibility criteria on the applicant	The applicant shall be a legal person registered in the European Union The applicant shall not be a Member State entity which receives financing for a Capacity Building project which covers at least a part of the period to be covered by the Technical Assistance project.		
Eligibility based on the scope of the proposals ¹⁶	A proposal for a technical assistance project is only retained for evaluation against the award criteria, if it aims at the preparation of a future IP proposal.		
Main selection criteria	The coordinating applicants and associated applicants will have to demonstrate sufficient: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- operational capacity in terms of professional competencies, qualifications and requirements needed to undertake the proposal within stated technical parameters and- financial capacity in terms of stable and sufficient sources of funding and to participate in its funding.		
Main award criteria		Min. score	Max score
	1. Technical coherence and quality	30	60
	2. Financial coherence and quality	20	40
	Total	55	100

1.3.6. Implementation

The action grants financed in the framework of the sub-programme for environment will be implemented in direct management by DG Environment.

The action grants financed in the framework of the climate action sub-programme will be implemented in direct management by EASME.

1.3.7. Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the call for proposals

Publication date	May 2017
Award decision and information to the applicants about the results of the evaluation	September 2017

¹⁶ See Articles 2 and 19 of the Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

Indicative amount of the call for proposals	1 186 500 EUR
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Grants agreements will be signed upon successful conclusion of the evaluation process.

1.3.8. Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

According to Article 20(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, the maximum rate at which the technical assistance projects can be co-financed by LIFE is 60 % up to a maximum amount of 100.000 EUR per project.

1.4. ACTION GRANTS FOR PREPARATORY PROJECTS

1.4.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, and, in particular, Articles 17, 18(g), 19 and 20 thereof.

1.4.2. Budget lines and amounts

Budget article 07 02 01 - Contributing to a greener and more resource efficient economy and to the development and implementation of Union environmental policy and legislation EUR 966 000.

Budget article 07 02 02 - Halting and reversing biodiversity loss - EUR 1 122 000.

1.4.3. Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

Preparatory projects support specific needs for the development and implementation of Union environmental and climate action policies and related legislation.

The priorities for 2017 are defined in consultation with Member States and included in an inventory of specific needs regarding the development and implementation of Union environmental and climate action policies and legislation.

One of the priorities already identified concerns the support to the European Solidarity Corps, and developing its activities in the area of environment. As a contribution to the European Solidarity Corps, DG ENV will focus on engaging volunteers in environmental protection, nature conservation and restoration of natural areas and ecosystems.

The initial objective will be to focus mainly on Natura 2000 sites. Grants under the initiative are aimed at providing young people in Europe with an opportunity to collaborate to the protection, improvement or restoration of the environment together with increasing resilience to climate change and natural disasters.

1.4.4. Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

The activities to be funded will vary in relation to the work necessary to address the specific needs identified by the Commission including the project duration and the indicative budget to be allocated to each project.

The EU contribution under the EU Solidarity Corps would partly finance projects via grants enabling young volunteers to experience different practices to tackle nature protection challenges. This initial pilot phase foresees voluntary placements (2–6 months).

1.4.5. Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main eligibility criteria on the applicant	Be a public or private organisation registered in an EU Member State.		
Main selection criteria	<p>Operational capacity – the applicant must have the professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the project.</p> <p>Financial capacity - the applicant must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain his activity throughout the duration of the project and to participate in its funding.</p> <p>In line with Article 131 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the verification of the financial capacity does not apply to public authorities.</p>		
Main award criteria		Min. score	Max score
	Technical coherence and quality of the proposal in relation to the specific need addressed	22	45
	Comprehensiveness of the approach in relation to the specific need addressed	15	30
	Financial coherence and quality	12	25
	Total	55	100

1.4.6. Implementation

The action will be implemented in direct management by the Commission: DG Environment in the case of preparatory projects financed in the framework of the sub-programme for Environment and DG CLIMA for the preparatory projects financed in the framework of the sub-programme for Climate Action.

1.4.7. Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the calls for proposals

Publication date	May 2017
Closing date for the receipt of proposals	3 rd quarter 2017
Award decision and information to the applicants about the results of the evaluation	4 th quarter 2017
Signature of grant agreements	1 st quarter of 2018

For the preparatory action contributing to the European Solidarity Corps

Publication date	December 2016
Closing date for the receipt of proposals	March 2017
Award decision and information to the applicants about the results of the evaluation	2 nd Q of 2017
Signature of grant agreements	2 nd Q of 2017

Grants agreements will be signed upon successful conclusion of the evaluation process. The overall indicative amount for the calls for proposals for preparatory actions is 2 088 000

1.4.8. Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

According to Article 20(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, the maximum rate at which the preparatory projects can be co-financed by LIFE is 60 %.

In the framework of the preparatory projects for the support of the European Solidarity Corps, the beneficiaries shall declare eligible costs in the form of unit costs calculated on the basis of Decision C(2013)8550 of 4 December 2013 on the use of lump sums, the reimbursement on the basis of unit costs and the flat-rate financing under the “Erasmus+” Programme. Those unit costs are as follows:

1. The unit cost for travel costs support referred to in Annex II of the above Decision;
2. The unit cost for the individual support referred to in Annex III.A for Youth Volunteers of the above Decision.

Those unit costs cover the contribution paid to the volunteer for his/her travel and for an individual support for the time he/she will be providing volunteer work. The activities related to the financing of volunteers proposed under the European Solidarity Corps to be engaged in the area of environment show clear analogies with and are highly similar to the ones of Erasmus+ Volunteer strand (activities with EU added value implemented by youth volunteers). Those activities share the same access portal and require coverage of the same type of costs (individual support and travel expenses). The unit costs rates mentioned above will therefore be used for activities in the area of environment carried out under the European Solidarity Corps. This approach will ensure the respect of the principle of equal treatment for all participants of the European Solidarity Corps across different EU programmes contributing to its purpose.

In line with the Basic Act of LIFE, a maximum co-financing rate of 60% for the EU contribution will be applied. The methodology established in Decision C(2013)8550 already incorporates a co-financing rate of up to 80%. As a result, projects financed under LIFE will subsequently apply a maximum co-financing rate of 75% to the above mentioned unit costs, as 75% of 80% is equivalent, overall, to a maximum of 60% of the total costs. Hence, this will allow to respect of the maximum 60% co-financing rate foreseen by Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

1.5. ACTION GRANTS FOR THE EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

1.5.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and, in particular, Article 21 thereof.

1.5.2. Budget lines and amounts

Budget article 07 02 03 - Supporting better environmental governance and information at all levels - EUR 3 000 000.

Budget article 34 02 03 - Better climate governance and information at all levels - EUR 3 000 000.

1.5.3. Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

In the framework of the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps, this call for proposals for the European Voluntary Services (EVS) is aimed at promoting transnational mobility activities targeting volunteers in the field of environmental protection, and mainly aiming

- to raise participants' awareness and understanding of other cultures and countries environmental issues, offering them the opportunity to build networks of international contacts, to actively participate in environmental protection and nature conservation activities with the aim to develop the ownership of the European natural capital;
- to increase the capacities, attractiveness and international dimension of organisations active in environment protection so that they are able to offer activities and programmes that better respond to the needs of individuals, within and outside Europe.

Organisations active in the fields of environmental protection and nature conservation will receive support to carry out projects promoting the deployment of volunteers.

Mobility activities involve minimum two participating organisations (at least one sending and at least one receiving organisation) from different EU countries.

1.5.4. Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

All the activities necessary to support the capacity of the applicant to deploy volunteers.

1.5.5. Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main eligibility criteria on the applicant	The applicant shall be a legal person registered in the European Union	
Main selection criteria	The applicant will have to demonstrate sufficient: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- operational capacity in terms of professional competencies and , qualifications needed to undertake the proposed action and- financial capacity in terms of stable and sufficient sources of funding and to participate in its funding.	
Main award criteria	Criterion	Max score
	Relevance of the project	30

	Quality of the project design and implementation	40
	Impact and dissemination	30
	Total	100

1.5.6. Implementation

This action grant will be implemented in co-delegation by DG EAC under an indirect management mode.

1.5.7. Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the call for proposals

Publication date	May 2017
Award decision and information to the applicants about the results of the evaluation	September 2017
Indicative amount of the call for proposals	6 000 000 EUR

Grants agreements will be signed upon successful conclusion of the evaluation process.

1.5.8. Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

According to Article 20(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, the maximum rate at which the technical assistance projects can be co-financed by LIFE is 60 %.

The majority of grants will be financed in the form of lump sums, reimbursement on the basis of unit costs and flat rate financing. The use of these types of grants under the “EVS” programme have been authorised by Commission Decision C(2013)8550¹⁷.

1.6. OPERATING GRANTS FOR CO-FINANCING THE WORK PROGRAMME OF NON-PROFIT ENTITIES

1.6.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and, in particular, Articles 17 and 21.

1.6.2. Budget lines and amounts

Budget article 07 02 03 - Supporting better environmental governance and/or information at all levels - EUR 7 000 000.

Budget article 34 02 03 - Better climate governance and information at all levels- EUR 2 000 000.

¹⁷ C(2013)8550 of 4 December 2013 authorising the use of lump sums, reimbursement on the basis of unit costs and flat-rate financing under the “Erasmus +” Programme.

1.6.3. Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results

The objective of this action is to promote better environmental and climate governance by broadening stakeholder involvement, including NGOs, in policy consultation and policy implementation (Article 12(d) of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 - specific objective for the priority area Environmental Governance and Information and Article 16(d) of that Regulation - specific objective for the priority area Climate Governance and Information).

The expected result is to identify and support no-profit organisations able to strengthen civil society participation in the dialogue process of environmental and climate policy development and implementation.

The priorities for the 2017 work programmes of the applicants are the following:

- To protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital;
- To turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy;
- To safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing;
- To increase the Union's effectiveness in addressing international climate related challenges.

1.6.4. Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

Grants will be awarded following an open call for proposals aimed at identifying framework partners on the basis of a multiannual strategic plan and then at selecting their 2018 work programme for co-financing.

1.6.5. Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria

Main eligibility criteria	<p>An applicant organisation must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ be a non-profit-making legal person, independent in particular from government and other public authorities and from political or commercial interests,▪ be primarily active in the field of environment and/or climate action and have an environmental/climate objective aimed at the public good and with a view to sustainable development, as well as being involved in the development, implementation and enforcement of Union environmental and/or climate policy and legislation;▪ be operating at Union level with a structure and activities covering at least three European Union Member States,▪ be established (legally registered) in the EU28 Member States or in a third country in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and under the conditions provided for in that Article.
Main selection criteria	<p>Applicants will only be selected if, based on specific supporting documents related to their performance during the two previous years, they can demonstrate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ operational capacity - the applicant must have the professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the proposed

	<p>work programme, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ financial capacity - the applicant must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain his activity throughout the year for which the grant is awarded and to participate in its funding. <p>In cases of exceptional circumstances, notably regarding a new network created by experienced organisations, the Commission may grant derogation from the requirement of supporting documents referring to the two previous years.</p> <p>Article 131 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 will apply to the selection of public bodies and international organisations.</p>
<p>Main award criteria for the framework partnership agreements</p>	<p>1. Relevance of involvement in the Union’s environmental and/or climate action policy process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - under the thematic objectives of the 7th Environment Action Programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to protect, conserve and enhance the Union’s natural capital - to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy; - to safeguard the Union’s citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing, - under the climate and energy package, the roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050 and the Union’s adaptation strategy. <p>2. Relevance and potential to contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maximising the benefits of the Union’s environment and climate action legislation by improving implementation and enforcement, - improving the knowledge and evidence base for Union environment and climate action policy, - securing investment for environment and climate action policy and address environmental externalities and - improving environmental and climate action integration and policy coherence. <p>3. Relevance for enhancing the sustainability of the Union’s cities and increasing the Union’s effectiveness in addressing international environmental and climate related challenges.</p> <p>4. Relevance in addressing environmental and climate emerging issues and new policy priorities.</p> <p>5. Effectiveness of the partner's contribution to the Union policy process.</p> <p>6. Organisational development – potential to develop in order to become a more efficient stakeholder in the Union’s policy process.</p>
<p>Main award criteria for the specific grants under</p>	<p>For the award of the annual specific operating grants, the following additional criteria will apply:</p>

framework partnership agreements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compliance of the work programme with the objectives and nature of activities indicated in the multiannual strategic plan 2. Relevance in addressing environmental and/or climate emerging issues and new policy priorities 3. Feasibility and internal coherence of the work programme within the time frame 4. Coherence between the work programme and the proposed budget, including efficient use of resources
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1.6.6. Implementation

A call for proposals will be launched to select the framework partners on the basis of their multiannual strategic plan.

The selected framework partners will be invited to submit their 2018 work programme in view of the possible award of a specific operating grant for the financial year 2018.

Grants will be covered by a written agreement.

The operating grants to non-profit organisations are included in the activities delegated to EASME and will be implemented under direct management by the agency.

1.6.7. Indicative timetable and indicative amount of the call for proposals

Timing of call for proposals :	
Publication date	July 2017
Closing date	After minimum six weeks from publication
Notification of results	October/November 2017
Signature of the framework partnership agreements	November 2017
Request for 2018 work programmes	November 2017
Receipt of the 2018 work programmes	November/December 2017
Assessment of the 2018 work programmes	December 2017
Signature of the specific operating grants	February 2018
Indicative amount for the	9 000 000 EUR

specific operating grants:	
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1.6.8. Maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible costs

The specific grant will take the form of a partial reimbursement of eligible costs. The rate of overall EU assistance shall not exceed 60 % out of the applicant's eligible expenses for 2018.

The maximum amount that can be requested and awarded for 2018 is fixed at € 700.000 000 and shall not exceed the amount awarded under the LIFE programme to the same beneficiary for an operating grant covering the financial year 2017.

[...]

2. PROCUREMENT

The budgetary allocation reserved for procurement contracts in 2017 by this work programme amounts to EUR 79 326 178.

2.1. *PROCUREMENT SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT ACTION POLICIES AND LEGISLATION*

2.1.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, and, in particular, Articles 17(1) and 22 thereof.

2.1.2. Budget lines and amounts

The overall amount reserved for procurement activities to be implemented in 2017 under the environment policy area is EUR 59 271 383.

Budget item 07 01 04 01 – Support Expenditure for the Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) – Sub-programme for Environment -EUR 1 600 000;

Budget article 07 02 01 - Contributing to a greener and more resource efficient economy and to the development and implementation of Union environmental policy and legislation EUR 16 853 233.

Budget article 07 02 02 - Halting and reversing biodiversity loss - EUR 8 815 250.

Budget article 07 02 03 - Supporting better environmental governance and information at all levels - EUR 32 002 900.

2.1.3. Subject matter of the contracts envisaged, type of contracts, indicative number and timeframe for the launching of the procurement procedures

Indicative subject of the contracts	Estimated n° contracts	Type of contract	Indicative date of publication (quarter / Year)
External communication, including :	SER	6	1 st -3 rd Q 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High level stakeholder events, conferences and participatory schemes/activities, such as Green Week, European Green 	FRA	20	
	ETU	1	

Capital Award, European Business Award, Eco-Innovation Forum, Environmental Footprint, Global network of Interoperable LCA database, EU Strategy for Pollinators, European Sustainable Phosphorus, revision of EU environmental policies and legislative approaches, etc.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and publications in support to the main political priorities and the environmental legislation (such as circular economy and resource efficiency, relationship noise/health, environmental performance of building, environment and citizens, follow up of the LIFE Mid term evaluation, BEST, etc.). 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media relations, support of the European Presidency, outreach in the Member States. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publications on LIFE + projects and implementation and development environment policy and newsletters, Eurobarometer surveys, Video news releases and other audiovisual productions, web and social media activities, web applications 			
AIR QUALITY:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of knowledge base and support to the Clean Air Programme, including expert support and air policy dialogue with MS. 	SER FRA	3 1	1 st – 3 rd Q 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific and technical inputs for the implementation of Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁸ and Directive 2001/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁹ 			
INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS AND ACCIDENTS: Support to the emission inventory, to the assessment of measures to reduce emissions and to estimate compliance costs, to the enforcement of Directive 2012/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ²⁰ (the so-called Sulphur Directive) through the development of Thetis-EU, to stimulate technological innovation, to review the guidance of the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and the monitoring system for Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council ²¹ (so-called Seveso Directive)	FRA	9	1 st – 3 rd Q 2017

¹⁸ Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (OJ L 152, 11.6.2008, p. 1–44).

¹⁹ Directive 2001/81/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2001 on national emission ceilings for certain atmospheric pollutants (OJ L 309, 27.11.2001, p. 22–30).

²⁰ Directive 2012/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 November 2012 amending Council Directive 1999/32/EC as regards the sulphur content of marine fuels (OJ L 327, 27.11.2012, p. 1–13).

²¹ Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directive 96/82/EC (OJ L 197, 24.7.2012, p. 1–37).

CIRCULAR ECONOMY: On going implementation, including communication aspects, stakeholders consultation (i.e. Retail Forum) and further evolution of existing legislation and policies related to	SER FRA	12 7	2 nd – 4 th Q 2017
• sustainable consumption and production,			
• green growth, including Green Public procurement			
• Ecolabel,			
• Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS),			
• Eco-design,			
• Sustainable buildings and constructions			
CHEMICALS: assessment of the benefit of the reduction of environmental and health impacts from exposure to hazardous chemicals	ETU	1	3 rd Q 2017
WASTE: support to MS for the enforcement of the legislation on waste (elaboration of guidance document on Directive 2006/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council ²² and assessment of Waste Management Plans)	ETU	2	1 st and 2 nd Q 2017
WATER.	SER, FRA	12, 10	1 st , 2 nd and 3 rd Q 2017
• Scientific and technical support for the implementation, development, evaluation and impact assessment on EU water policy measures, including the drinking water, the water waste treatment, the water industry, the reused water, the link with agriculture, the ecological coherence of networks of marine protected areas, etc..			
• Support the enforcement of the EU legislation on water, including peer reviews, compliance promotion, thematic assessment reports and the Common Implementation Strategy on the WFD			
• Maintenance and further development of specific tools such as the Water Information System for Europe (WISE)			
• Development of the knowledge on investment needs, risk assessment and management, flood hazard			
Strategic support for the modelling of environmental policies, the implementation of the bioenergy policy, the development of an alert service on environmental risks, the possibilities of mainstreaming environmental concerns in Regional (ERDF), Social (ESF) and Cohesion Funds	SER, ETU	2,2	1 st and 2 nd Q 2017
BIODIVERSITY. Support for the implementation of	SER ETU	15 2	2 nd and 3 rd Q 2017
• the EU biodiversity Strategy to 2020 including the assessment of ecosystems and ecosystem services, the Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE) and natural capital accounting, including KIP INCA.			

²² Directive 2006/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 on the management of waste from extractive industries and amending Directive 2004/35/EC (OJ L 102, 11.4.2006, p. 15–34).

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land degradation, Combating Invasive Alien Species (IAS), Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council²³. work with key stakeholders, in particular the business sector, including the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process, Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/EC and follow up of their fitness checks. Monitoring, implementation and enforcement of EC wildlife trade regulations, as well as participation at the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species Improving the knowledge base, including the assessment of the impact of trade liberalization on biodiversity and the assessment of options against deforestation Communication activities on nature and biodiversity including the Natura2000 award and the EU platform on Large carnivores. 			
ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE and LEGAL COMPLIANCE:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal enforcement and conformity checks, support to the compliance, Support for the definition of an assessment framework for environmental governance and MS performance Development and promotion of systems for streamlining of reporting Cooperation with judicial authorities. Implementation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) legislation; Need and impact assessments in a mid century perspective Integration of environmental concerns into Regional (ERDF), Social (ESF) and the Cohesion fund. Administrative, technical and legal assistance for the implementation of the legislative instruments on environmental governance (Directive 2004/35/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council²⁴ and Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council²⁵, etc.) 	ETU FRA	4 10	1 st , 2 nd and 4 th Q 2017

²³ Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization in the Union (OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 59–71).

²⁴ Directive 2004/35/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage (OJ L 143, 30.4.2004, p. 56–75).

²⁵ Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE) (OJ L 108, 25.4.2007, p. 1–14).

Technical assistance in relation to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the implementation of the LIFE + and LIFE grants, including support activities for the European Solidarity Corps, monitoring, evaluation, communication, organisation of platform meetings, and ex post audit. administrative systems (OFFRE, PROFILE+, Myintracomm, corporate web content management (CWCMS), Drupal, etc.. 	5,5	SER, FRA	1 st , 2 nd and 4 th Q 2017
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2.2. *PROCUREMENT SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND COMMUNICATION OF THE CLIMATE ACTION POLICIES AND LEGISLATION*

2.2.1. **Legal basis**

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013, and, in particular, Articles 17(1) and 22 thereof.

2.2.2. **Budget lines and amounts**

The overall amount reserved for procurement activities under the climate action policy area in 2017 is EUR 20 054 795.

Budget item 34 01 04 01 – Support Expenditure for the Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) – Sub-programme for Climate Action – EUR 3 282 000;

Budget article 34 02 01 - Reducing Union greenhouse gas emissions – EUR 6 310 000.

Budget article 34 02 02 - Increasing resilience of the Union to climate change – EUR 6 300 000.

Budget article 34 02 03 - Better climate governance and information at all levels - EUR 4 162 795.

2.2.3. **Subject matter of the contracts envisaged, type of contracts, indicative number and timeframe for the launching of the procurement procedures**

Indicative Subject of the contract	Type of contract ²⁶	Estimated n° contracts	Indicative date of publication (quarter / Year)
Technical assistance to support the international work of EU interests, including its integration into EU legislation and practice: Climate Diplomacy, the contribution and support to the COP within the UN framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the support to the implementation of the	SER, ETU	4, 1	1st and 3rd Q 2017

²⁶ ETU (study contract).

Paris Climate Agreement, the China International conference on emission trading and other conferences and international events, support to ICAP training			
ETS. Emissions monitoring, reporting and verification. Emission from aviation and small emitters. Assistance for maintenance, security and assesment/preparation of further developments, quality assurance and service desk for EUCA and EUTL. Assistance to the process of auctioning of allowances (auctioning platform, clearing monitor) and support to the development of an international carbon market. Issues of carbon leakage.	SER, FRA	19,1	1st, 3rd and 4th Q 2017
DECARBONISATION. Scientific and technical support in view of the transition towards a low-carbon European society: - Support for the development of the Fuel Quality Directive; - Climate impacts from road vehicles and fuels, including car labelling, Light-Duty Vehicles, Vehicle Energy consumption Calculation Tool (VECTO), maritime transport; - Evaluation of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council ²⁷ and support the implementation of Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council ²⁸ , Energy Union	SER, ETU	6, 6	2nd-3rd Q 2017
ADAPTATION. Implementation, evaluation and further development of the EU adaptation strategy, including developing of the knowledge base and reporting in the framework of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council ²⁹ (the so-called Greenhouse gas Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (MMR)).	SER, ETU	2, 1	3rd -4th Q 2017
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS: Support for the assessment of EU climate policies, assistance for the definition of strategies in a mid-century perspective, support for forest references emisison levels and incentives, support to the Innovation and Modernisation Fund, analysis of promising technologies such as CCU, technical assistance for the implementation/revision of legislation, including Effort Sharing Decision, support to the Energy Union governance process, including for the integrated national energy and climate plans, Climate mainstreaming	SER, ETU	8, 4	4 th Q 2016, 1st-3rd Q 2017
Communication activities on EU Climate Action policy activities – awareness raising campaign, organisation of events, production of audiovisual materials and	SER, FRA	18, 1	1st- 3rd Q 2017

²⁷ Regulation (EC) No 1005/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on substances that deplete the ozone layer (OJ L 286, 31.10.1999, p.1-30).

²⁸ Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on fluorinated greenhouse gases and repealing Regulation (EC) No 842/2006 (OJ L 150, 20.5.2014, p. 195–230).

²⁹ Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and for reporting other information at national and Union level relevant to climate change and repealing Decision No 280/2004/EC (OJ L 165, 18.6.2013, p. 13–40).

publications, social media.			
Technical support to in relation to the implementation of the LIFE + and LIFE programme and NER evaluation, IT support, Audit of LIFE projects.	SER	3	'1st- 3rd Q 2017

[..]

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS IMPLEMENTED IN INDIRECT MANAGEMENT

The overall budgetary allocation reserved for financial instruments in 2017 amounts to EUR 20 000 000 and, in particular:

- EUR 10 000 000 for the Private Financing for Energy Efficiency instrument
- EUR 10 000 000 for the Natural Capital Financing Facility.

3.1. PRIVATE FINANCING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY INSTRUMENT (PF4EE)

3.1.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and, in particular, Article 17(1) thereof.

3.1.2. Specific Financial instrument to be used

Private Financing for Energy Efficiency instrument (PF4EE)

3.1.3. Budget line and amount allocated to the financial instrument

Budget article 34 02 01 - Reducing of Union greenhouse gas emissions – EUR 10 000 000;

3.1.4. Objectives to be fulfilled and the foreseen results

PF4EE aims at:

- making energy efficiency lending a more sustainable activity across European financial institutions;
- encouraging private commercial banks and other financial intermediaries to address the energy efficiency sector as a distinct market segment;
- increasing lending for energy efficiency in response to priorities identified by Member States' National Energy Efficiency Action Plans.

Under the PF4EE approximately 6-10 financing agreements could be signed with financial institutions (EIB Loans for EE and expert support facilities) in the period 2014-2017. A financing agreement may cover the implementation of the PF4EE in more than one MS and a financial intermediary may sign more than one financing agreement.

It is expected that for the years 2014-17, assuming an average investment cost of EUR 300 000, up to 1,800 final recipients and projects will receive a total loan financing of approximately EUR 430 000 000. The total investment in energy efficiency over this period could be around EUR 540 000 000 .

The estimate leverage of the value of the loan portfolio to the LIFE provision is 6 fold. Taking into account the possible contribution of final beneficiaries to project costs in the order of 25%, the leverage of total investment to the LIFE provision could be at up to 8 fold.

3.1.5. Implementation mode and entrusted entity

The financial instrument is being implemented through indirect management as allowed for in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and according with Article 58 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is entrusted with the implementation of PF4EE according to Article 216 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

3.1.6. Indicative timetable

The delegation agreement with the EIB was signed in December 2014. The EIB submits in January the pipeline report on the basis of which the amount and the specific timetable for the commitments and payments is decided.

3.2. NATURAL CAPITAL FINANCING FACILITY (NCF)

3.2.1. Legal basis

Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and, in particular, Article 17 (1) thereof.

3.2.2. Specific financial instrument to be used

The Natural Capital Financing Facility (NCF) combines direct and indirect financing of projects through debt and equity. An expert support facility will be provided in order to ensure that projects reach a sufficient stage of maturity for financing. In view of the current market conditions, the facility targets a share of 70% of direct investments and 30% through intermediaries, although the latter could be higher depending on demand. The proportion of total investments in projects covered by loan or equity from the NCF is expected to vary between 50% and, in exceptional cases, 100%, with an average of 75%.

3.2.3. Budget line and amount allocated to the financial instrument

Budget article 07 02 02 - Halting and reversing biodiversity loss - EUR 5 000 000.

Budget article 34 02 02 - Increasing resilience of the Union to climate change – EUR 5 000 000.

3.2.4. Objectives to be fulfilled and the foreseen results

The objectives targeted by the NCF are the following:

- To address market gaps and barriers for revenue generating or cost saving projects that are aimed at preserving natural capital, including climate change adaptation projects, and thereby to contribute to the achievement of EU and Member States' objectives for biodiversity and climate change adaptation.
- To establish a pipeline of replicable, profitable natural capital projects that will demonstrate their feasibility and leverage funding from private investors.
- To demonstrate to private investors the attractiveness of natural capital projects for the longer term, in order to build-up a sustainable and sufficiently large flow of private capital.

During the initial pilot phase, the NCFE is expected to execute 9-12 investments (including indirect investments), or 3-4 investments per year. The total budget of EUR 60 000 000 would be allocated from the LIFE Programme plus EUR 50 000 000 from the EIB. Individual investments would remain up to EUR 10 000 000 to 15 000 000. Given the expected leverage factor anticipated to be between 2.8 and 4.2, the total investment in natural capital management projects triggered by the NCFE over the pilot phase alone could be up to EUR 420 000 000.

3.2.5. Implementation mode and entrusted entity

This financial instrument is implemented through indirect management as allowed for in Article 25 of Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013 and according with Article 58 of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is entrusted with the implementation of NCFE according to Article 216 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

3.2.6. Indicative timetable

The delegation agreement with the EIB was signed in December 2014. The EIB submits in January the pipeline report on the basis of which the amount and the specific timetable for the commitments and payments is decided.