

LIFE+ Call for proposals 2010

National annual priorities for Slovenia

1. CONTACT INFORMATION

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2. METHOD EMPLOYED TO SELECT THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES

The national priority for the **component Nature and Biodiversity** is implementation of the Natura 2000 site management programme 2007–2013 (Operational programme). The Operational Programme has been adopted by the Government of Republic of Slovenia on 11. October 2007.

The obligations to protect special protected areas, the Natura 2000 sites, derive from Council Directive 92/43/EEC and Council Directive 79/409/EEC that have been transposed into the Slovenian legal order, jointly with the regulations on nature conservation. The basic purpose of the operational programme is to detail the implementation of obligations under the protection of special protected areas – Natura 2000 sites for the period 2007–2013.

The national priority for the **component Environment Policy and Governance** is implementation of the National Environment Action Programme, adopted by Slovenian Parliament in 2005 and operational programmes for air quality and waste management. Slovenian main priorities in the environment sector are: improving of the air quality, efficient management of municipal waste, protecting and ensuring the sustainable use of soil by preserving soil functions, preventing threats to soil, mitigating their effects and restoring degraded soils, in the sector of information and communication - ensuring regular and effective information flow to provide the basis for policy decisions on the environment, and to provide accessible information to citizens on the state and trends of the environment.

The national priority for the **component Environment Policy and Governance - Waters** is implementation of the National Environmental Action Plan adopted by the Parliament of Republic of Slovenia on 24 November 2005 and Resolution on National Environmental Action Plan 2005-2012, adopted by the Parliament of Republic of Slovenia on 24 November 2005.

The obligation to contribute to enhanced water quality derive from Water Framework Directive 2000/60/ES, Directive 2006/118/EC on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration, Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks, Directive 2006/7/EC concerning the management of bathing water, Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources that have been or are being (Directive 2008/105/EC on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy, Directive 2008/56/EC establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy) transposed into the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia.

3. IDENTIFIED LONG-TERM NEEDS IN CONNECTION WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Slovenia has the highest share of Natura sites among all Member States. Meeting obligations to prevent deterioration is therefore pivotal for fulfilling the requirements and achieving the objective of the directives. To this end, Nature Conservation Act and the Decree on Special Protection Areas (Natura 2000 sites) provide for the adoption of Natura 2000 site management programme 2007–2013. The Programme lays down the detailed protection objectives for each individual Natura site. The objectives derive from protection objectives in accordance with the Decree on Special Protection Areas (Natura 2000 sites). Protection measures and other regulatory content are also defined.

Regarding to the national priorities Slovenia wants to improve air quality, management of municipal waste and ensure the sustainable soil use.

Fulfilling the requirements and achieving the objectives of the directives in the field of Waters is for Slovenia pivotal priority. Provisions of the directives have been transposed into legislation of the Republic of Slovenia with Environment Protection Act, Water Act and to them subordinated regulations.

Good information and communication practice is important support for implementation of all national policies.

	Principal objectives and priorities as set out in Annex II of the LIFE+ Regulation	Area chosen as national annual priority: (Tick if appropriate)	Types of projects - Best practice projects - Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Specific national objective (Please include reference to more information)
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LIFE+ NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY

1. Nature and Biodiversity To protect, conserve, restore, monitor and facilitate the functioning of natural systems, natural habitats, wild flora and fauna, with the aim of halting the loss of biodiversity, including diversity of genetic resources, within the EU by 2010.

Priority areas of action (PPA)	a) contributing to implement Community policy and legislation on nature and biodiversity, in particular of Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC, and promote its integration with other policy areas;		Best practice projects	Implementation of the Natura 2000 Site Management Programme*
	b) supporting the further development and implementation of the Natura 2000 network, including coastal and marine habitats and species;		Best practice projects	Implementation of the Natura 2000 Site Management Programme*
	c) supporting design and implementation of policy approaches and instruments for monitoring and assessing national and biodiversity and the factors, pressures and responses that impacts on it, in particular in relation to achieving the target of halting biodiversity loss within the Community by 2010;		Innovation projects	Implementation of the Natura 2000 Site Management Programme*
	d) improving the knowledge of the impact of genetically modified organisms on ecosystems and biodiversity: risk assessment methodologies.			

* Programme on the web site:

- publication: http://www.natura2000.gov.si/uploads/tx_library/141-natura_01.pdf
- annex 4.2: http://www.natura2000.gov.si/uploads/tx_library/141-Natura-priloga4-2.pdf

LIFE+ ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

2. Climate change Stabilising greenhouse gas concentration at a level that prevents global warming above 2°C.

Priority areas of action	a) Ensuring the implementation of EU commitments under the UNFCCC Kyoto protocol and developing a post 2012 strategy and implementation programme with a view on further reducing EU greenhouse gas emissions up to 2020.	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	OP TGP
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	b) ensuring the adaptation of the EU economy and society, nature and biodiversity, water resources and human health to the adverse impacts of climate change (to a potential temperature increase of 2°C resulting from increased greenhouse gas concentrations) and mitigating its impact;	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	OP TGP
	c) ensuring the implementation and use of market-based instruments, in particular greenhouse gases emissions trading, in order to achieve a cost-efficient emissions reduction in a post-2012 framework.			
3. Water Contributing to enhanced water quality by developing cost-effective measures to achieve good ecological status in view of developing the first river basin management plan under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) by 2009.				
Priority areas of action	a) preparing the WFD programmes of measures and integrating measures from parent directives such as e.g. Urban Waste-water Treatment Directive, the Bathing Water Directive, the Drinking Water Directive, the Plant Protection Products and Nitrates Directive, and the IPPC Directive;	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Resolution on National Environmental Action Plan 2005-2012
	b) contributing to the effective implementation of the EU Marine Strategy;	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Resolution on National Environmental Action Plan 2005-2012
4. Air Achieving levels of air quality that do not give rise to significant negative impacts on and risks to human health and the environment				
PAA	a) implementing the Thematic Strategy on air pollution	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	OP PM10, OP NEC
5. Soil Protecting and ensuring the sustainable use of soil by preserving soil functions, preventing threats to soil, mitigating their effects and restoring degraded soils.				
PPA	a) implementing the Thematic Strategy on the protection of soil; and	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Resolution on National Environmental Action Plan 2005-2012
	b) ensuring the protection and restoration of soil biodiversity.	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Resolution on National Environmental Action Plan 2005-2012
6. Urban environment Contributing to improving the environmental performance of Europe's urban areas.				
PPA	a) contributing to a better implementation of existing EU environmental policies and legislation at the local level by supporting and encouraging local authorities to adopt a more integrated approach to urban management, including the transport and energy sectors.			
7. Noise Contributing to policy development and implementation on ambient noise.				
PPA	a) to prevent and reduce the harmful effect from exposure to ambient noise.			

8. Chemicals To improve the environment and health from risks posed by chemicals by 2020 by implementing chemicals legislation, in particular the REACH regulation and the Thematic Strategy on the sustainable use of pesticides.				
PPA	a) enhancing science-policy integration and the transfer of results to provide a solid technical background in support of REACH;			
	b) implementation of the Thematic Strategy on the sustainable use of pesticides.			
9. Environment and health Developing the formation base for policy on the environment and health (the Environment and Health Action Plan for 2004 to 2010).				
PPA	a) human bio monitoring and data linkage on environment and health;			
	b) protection of the ozone layer to reduce negative health and environmental impacts.			
10. Waste and natural resources Developing and implementing policies designed to ensure sustainable management and use of natural resources and waste, improving the environmental performances of products, sustainable production and consumption patterns, waste prevention, recovery and recycling. Contributing to the effective implementation of the Thematic Strategy on waste.				
Priority areas of action	a) promoting sustainable use of natural resources, with a life-cycle approach, including environmental, social and economic aspects, in order to decouple environmental impact from economic growth;	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Operational programmes in Waste Sector
	b) promoting waste prevention, recovery and recycling with a focus on life-cycle thinking, eco-design and the development of recycling markets; and	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Operational programmes in Waste Sector
	c) contributing to the implementation of Community policy and legislation on waste, in particular the Landfill Directive, the Waste Framework Directive, the Waste Shipment Regulation and POPs Regulations and the Directives on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), Restrictions of the use of Certain Hazardous Substances (RoHS), End-of-Life Vehicles (ELVs), Hazardous Waste, Waste Oils, PCBs and mining waste.	X	- Demonstration projects - Innovation projects	Operational programmes in Waste Sector
11. Forests Providing, especially through an EU coordination network, a concise and comprehensive basis for policy relevant information on forest in relation to climate change (impact on forest ecosystems, mitigation, substitution effects), biodiversity (baseline information and protected forest areas), forest fires, forest condition and the protective functions of forests (water, soil and infrastructure) as well as contributing to protect forests against fires.				
Priority areas of action	a) promoting the collection, analysis and dissemination of policy-relevant information concerning forests and interactions between forests and the environment;			
	b) promoting the harmonisation and effectiveness of forest monitoring activities and data collection systems and making use of synergies by creating links between monitoring mechanisms established at regional, national, European and global level;			

	c) stimulating synergies between specific forests related issues and environmental initiatives and legislation (e.g. EU soil strategy, Natura 2000, Water Framework Directive, etc.);			
	d) contributing to sustainable forest management in particular by collecting data related to the improved Pan-European Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management as adopted by the MCPFE Expert Level Meeting 7-8 October 2002, Vienna, Austria; and			
	e) building capacities at national and Community level to allow for coordination and guidance on forest monitoring.			
12. Innovation To contributing to developing and demonstrating innovative policy approaches, technologies, methods and instruments to assist implementation of the European Technologies Action Plan (ETAP).				
PPA	a) promoting the identification, demonstration and dissemination of innovative technologies and practices, through actions complementary to those of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme;			
13. Strategic approaches - Promoting effective implementation and enforcement of EC environmental legislation and improving the knowledge base for environmental policy; - Improving the environmental performance of SMEs;				
Priority areas of action	a) strengthening the knowledge base for policy making and implementation by building a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and supporting the implementation of the Global Monitoring for the Environment and Security initiative (GMES)			
	b) implementing the Environmental Compliance Assistance Programme for SMEs.			
LIFE+ INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION				
16. Information and Communication Ensuring regular and effective information flow to provide the basis for policy decisions on the environment, and to provide accessible information to citizens on the state and trends of the environment				
PPA	a) disseminating information, eco-labelling, raising awareness and developing specific skills on environmental issues, including on forest fire prevention.	X	- Best practice projects	Resolution on National Environmental Action Plan 2005-2012