

LIFE+ Call for proposals 2011
National annual priorities for POLAND

1. CONTACT INFORMATION

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(Ministry of the Environment)

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2. METHOD EMPLOYED TO SELECT THE NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Polish government has appointed the National Fund for Environment Protection and Water Management as a national contact point. On the other hand, the Ministry of the Environment acts as a national authority responsible for the implementation of LIFE+, which includes the elaboration and approval of national annual priorities.

Priorities were selected by the relevant departments of the ministry (e.g. Dept. of Nature Protection, Dept. of Waste Management, Dept. of Environmental Education etc.) as well as the relevant national-level bodies (i.e. National Board for Water Management, General Inspectorate for Environment Protection) out of the ongoing national policies on both nature and environment. The draft of document has been consulted and further elaborated by the national contact point (NFOŚiGW) and national authority taking into account the main objectives specified in a national-level policy document: "The National Environmental Policy for 2009 – 2012 with a perspective up to 2016"

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

The long-term needs of Poland are specified in a document "The National Environmental Policy for 2009 – 2012 with a perspective up to 2016".

The most significant long-term needs of Poland include:

In the field of the Nature

- further implementation of Natura2000 – increasing connectivity within N2000 network
- supporting in-situ habitats' and species' protection
- supporting the management of "conflict species" (wolf, otter etc.)
- river and wetland renaturation/restoration

In addition, it is critical for Poland to enhance Natura 2000 network management by capacity building of institutional bodies involved in sites' protection and management.

In the field of the Environment

- following the 6th EAP
- reduction of the scale of inhabitants' exposure to excessive, standard-exceeding noise levels
- recultivation of degraded areas
- improving the state of inland water bodies
- flood protection and flood prevention
- managing municipal waste and improving methods of energy restoration from wastes

	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 as set out in Article 3(2) of the LIFE+ Regulation	Specific national objective (Please include reference to more information)
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;	X	a, b, c	<p>Prevention of damage resulting from conflict animal species (otter, cormorant, wolf, crane, heron). In accordance with objective 7th of “The national strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”</p> <p>“In situ” protection and improvement of the state of endangered wetland or critically endangered species/ habitats, with consideration given to their regional variability (objective 3 of “The national strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”)</p> <p>Elaboration of protection/ management plans for Natura 2000 sites, especially wetland, river-basin and inland water bodies as well as coastal and marine sites</p> <p>Development of species management plans</p> <p>Development of ecological corridor system.</p> <p>Management of invasive alien species including prevention of introduction and spread, eradication or information sharing.</p>

<p>b) supporting the further development and implementation of the Natura 2000 network, including coastal and marine habitats and species</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>a,b</p>	<p>Active protection of the semi-natural forest and non-forest ecosystems (removing of shrubs, grazing, mowing). Re-modelling of tree species structure in forests – fighting the invasive alien species etc. Passive protection of forest and non-forest ecosystems – land purchase in the protected areas.</p> <p>Active protection of coastal and marine habitats and species, as well as efforts to restore them within sites of their historical occurrence. (objective 11 of “the National strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”)</p> <p>Information sharing on endangered species and habitats.</p>
<p>c) supporting design and implementation of policy approaches and instruments for monitoring and assessing national 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;</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>b,c,d</p>	<p>Monitoring of alien species including data collection. Preventing the penetration and dispersal of the most biodiversity resources-threatening species (objective 5 of “The national strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”).The improvement of the principles of handling conflict species and species that invoke negative response of the public (objective 7 of “the National strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”)</p>
<p>d) improving the knowledge of the impact of genetically modified organisms on ecosystems and biodiversity: risk assessment methodologies.</p>			<p>The improvement in the principles of handling GMO's and controlling their possible impact on the environment and biodiversity (objective 6 of “the National strategy for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”)</p>

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	b, c	<p>Projects aimed at maintaining a low emission growth pathway beyond 2012, through building capacity and public awareness:</p> <p>Developing and maintaining a computer-based database systems directly linked to the implementation of climate policy. This would, improve public access to environmental information through a website containing comprehensive information on GHG emissions data and trends.</p> <p>This would also involve studies, surveys, modelling and scenario building projects, which would feed into the system.</p> <p>Development of such a system would require capacity building assistance.</p>
	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	a, b, c	<p>Creation of mechanisms and elaboration of strategies aimed at adaptation of the most sensitive sectors to climatic changes.</p> <p>Re-creating of wetlands and other areas of high water retention abilities.</p> <p>Establishing new forest-covered areas in the upper part of river basins to prevent floodings.</p> <p>Other technical measures to prevent floods.</p>
	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.	X	b, c	Ensuring the implementation of the “Join Implementation” (“JI”) and the “Green Investment Scheme”(“GIS”)

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	b, c	Measures aiming at implementation of National Water and Environment Programme (currently being drafted) Supporting actions and measures at the OSN ("special threat exposed areas") zones, aiming at the implementation of nitrogen directive and water framework directive. Such actions are frequently foreseen in the local water management plans.
	b) contributing to the effective implementation of the EU Marine Strategy;			
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	b, c	Projects aimed at improving the air quality.
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	b	Protection of soil and remediation of contaminated soil. (<i>National Environmental Policy for 2009 – 2012 with a perspective up to 2016</i>)
	b) ensuring the protection and restoration of soil biodiversity.	X	b	Protection and restoration of soil biodiversity (<i>National Environmental Policy for 2009 – 2012 with a perspective up to 2016</i>). Recultivation of soil in the areas of intense gravel/sand exploitation in the river valleys.
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.	X	a,c	Projects aimed at increasing recognition of EMAS as a useful and practical tool for systematic integration of sustainable development aims into local policies and activities, as an integrated part of management of local environment (in wide range of its definition). Increase of EMAS uptake among local authorities, building cooperation with industrial associations, chambers of commerce and other concerned parties.
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.	X	b	Elaboration of acoustic maps and systems for preventing dangerous exposure to 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;	X	b	The implementation of an effective system of supervision on the market-approved chemicals, in accordance to the REACH regulation. (<i>Polityka ekologiczna państwa w latach 2009-2012 z perspektywą do roku 2016</i>)
	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.	X	b	Projects aimed at stopping the production and use of ozone-layer damaging agents by 2016. (<i>Polityka ekologiczna państwa w latach</i>

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	a,b,c	Contributing to the reduction the amount of community waste disposed at the waste disposal sites. Raising the awareness of communities in the field of organic waste treatment needs and methods. Selective waste recovery. Projects aimed at promotion and increase of uptake of EMAS scheme as a tool that helps companies to optimize their production processes, reduce environmental impacts and make more effective use of resources.
	b) promoting waste prevention, recovery and recycling with a focus on life-cycle thinking, eco-design and the development of recycling markets; and	X	b	Mechanical/biological treatment of mixed municipal solid waste and biodegradable waste. Mechanical biological treatment of mixed municipal solid waste. Recovering energy from the wastes.
	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	b	Increasing the amount of recycled waste (National waste management plan till 2010.)

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;	X	b, c, d	Contributing to sustainable and multi-functional forest management and use.
	e) building capacities at national and Community level to allow for coordination and guidance on forest monitoring.	X	d	Monitoring of forest ecosystems using the existing or previously planned monitoring areas.
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;	X	b	<p>Development of environmental technologies and eco-innovations.</p> <p>Management of bio-wastes derived from seminatural habitat management (eg. hay from mowing) (implementation of Kioto Protocol)</p> <p>Developing of new methods of measuring eco-innovation (National Environmental Technology Action Plan for for 2007 – 2009 with a perspective for 2010 – 2012).</p>

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.	X	a,c	Projects aimed at increasing EMAS uptake among SMEs, inter alia by establishing technical assistance measures for SMEs, sectoral projects engaging e.g. industrial associations, chambers of commerce.
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	c	<p>Raising the awareness and social-acceptance towards Natura 2000 system.</p> <p>Raising the awareness of private-forest owners in the field of fire prevention. General-public campaigns on forest fire prevention.</p> <p>Raising the awareness and formation attitudes towards protecting and sustainable use of biodiversity. General public campaigns(The European Environment State and Outlook 2010) .</p> <p>Raising the awareness and recognition of EMAS scheme, EMAS logo, EMAS as a tool in the enforcement of legislation.</p> <p>Raising the awareness of environmental noise control</p>