



25 years of EU supporting Nature,  
Environment and Climate Action through **LIFE**



## 25 years of LIFE in Italy: the challenge of the “The Knowledge Platform”

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**LIFE INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING CONFERENCE  
“ENVIRONMENTAL NEED LIFE FOR THE NEXT 25 YEARS”  
LJUBLJANA, 25<sup>TH</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017**





# The Italian LIFE NCP Office: about us

**Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea - Administration in charge of the Italian LIFE NCP**  
*Directorate for Sustainable Development, Environmental Damage,  
European Union and International Affairs*  
*Division II - Cohesion Policy and Community financial instruments*

**Head Division: Giusy Lombardi - Italian LIFE Committee member for Environment and Climate Action**

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Italian LIFE NCP for Environment and Climate Action**

**Ms. Simonetta Pulicati**

**Mr. Federico Benvenuti**





## 25 years of LIFE In Italy : an overview

The **LIFE programme** is the EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action. Launched in 1992, LIFE has **co-financed** some **4.500 projects** across the **Europe**, of which **over 1.000** are **ongoing**.

### LIFE in Italy (1992-2015):

- ❑ Since 1992, a total of **795 projects** have been **co-financed in Italy** (including 2 on NGOs – operating grants): **18% of the EU's total**
- ❑ These projects represent a **total investment of € 1.2 billion**, of which **€ 570 million** has been **contributed by the EU**.

*Italy and Spain (777 projects): the main beneficiaries of the LIFE financial instrument!*

*Source: European Commission/EASME. LIFE programme - Country Factsheet - Italy Overview. Last update: 14/10/16.*

The **LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency strand** (formerly the LIFE Environment Policy and Governance component) has co-financed **477 projects** in Italy, representing a **total investment of € 828 million**, of which **€ 339 million** has been **provided by the EU**.

- ❑ There are **118 ongoing projects** in Italy under this strand. The main **beneficiaries** are research institutes, SMEs, local, regional and national authorities, universities, international and large enterprises, an NGO and training centres.
- ❑ An example of a **successful LIFE Environment project in Italy: HEO - Highly Efficient Ovens through eco-friendly, energy efficient sol-gel enamelling process** (LIFE11 ENV/IT/000103). HEO has been selected by the MS as **“Best of the Best” LIFE Environment project 2015**.



[www.highefficientoven.eu](http://www.highefficientoven.eu)

## 25 years of LIFE In Italy – LIFE Nature and Biodiversity

The **LIFE Nature and Biodiversity** component has **co-financed 280 projects** in Italy. These represent a **total investment of € 355 million**, of which **€ 197 million** was **contributed by the EU**.

- ❑ **Completed LIFE Nature projects in Italy (216)** have **focused on** coastal habitats, mountain habitats, dunes, rivers, forests, wetlands, grasslands and calcareous fens. Others have targeted the conservation and restoration of species, such as large carnivores cetaceans, bats, raptors, the loggerhead turtle, the lamprey, and bird species of EU interest.
- ❑ The **project “RARITY”** (LIFE10 NAT/IT/000239), **among the Best Nature projects in 2015**, successfully contained the spread of the invasive non-native Louisiana red swamp crayfish and improved the conservation status of native crayfish populations in the Friuli Venezia Giulia region.



[www.life-rarity.eu](http://www.life-rarity.eu)

This **strand** (formerly the LIFE+ Information and Communication component) has **co-financed 17 projects** in Italy. This represents a **total investment of € 23 million**, of which **€ 13** was **provided by the EU**.

- ❑ **10 projects** co-financed under the former LIFE+ Information and Communication component in Italy are **closed**.
- ❑ An example of a **successful LIFE Information & Communication project in Italy: WATACLIC - Water against climate change. Sustainable water management in urban areas** (LIFE08 INF/IT/000308). The WATACLIC project achieved reductions in water and energy consumption in urban areas through a combination of new fiscal and communication tools.



[www.wataclic.eu](http://www.wataclic.eu)

The **Climate Change Mitigation** and the **Climate Change Adaptation** strands have co-financed **7** and **8** projects in Italy, respectively. All the projects represent a **total investment of € 29 million**, of which the **EU is contributing € 17 million**. The beneficiaries of these projects are large enterprises, regional authorities, a university and research institutes.

- **An example of a successful LIFE Climate Change Adaptation project in Italy: Life SEC Adapt** - *Upgrading Sustainable Energy Communities in Mayors Adapt initiative by planning Climate Change Adaptation strategies* (LIFE14 CCA/IT/000316). The ultimate objective of the project is to adopt and upgrade the model of Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) in order to improve climate governance.



[www.lifeseCADAPT.eu](http://www.lifeseCADAPT.eu)

The **Climate Governance and Information** strand have co-financed **2** projects in Italy.



## 25 years of LIFE In Italy – Call 2016

### Italy - results of the 2016 call for “traditional projects”:

**31** projects selected (EU total: 141); **3** projects in reserve list (EU total: 22).

#### Sub-programme ENV:

- Environment and Resource Efficiency: **18** selected projects; **2** projects in reserve list;
- Nature and Biodiversity: **5** selected projects;
- Environment Governance and Information: **4** selected projects.

#### Sub-programme CLIMATE:

- Climate Change Mitigation: **1** selected project;
- Climate Change Adaptation: **3** selected projects;
- Climate Governance and Information: **1** project in reserve list.



# 25 years of LIFE In Italy – Integrated projects

## Overview Integrated Projects 2014-2016 (ENV and CLIMA):

- ❑ **2014 awarded Integrated Projects: 1 (Nature), LIFE IP GESTIRE 2020 - Nature Integrated Management to 2020 (LIFE14 IPE/IT/000018).** EU total: 6.
- ❑ **2015 awarded Integrated Projects: 1 (Air), PREPAIR - Po regions engaged to policies of air (LIFE15 IPE/IT/000013).** EU total: 9.
- ❑ **2016 call for IP Concept Notes - Number of submitted concept notes: 4 (1 Nature, 1 Waste, 2 Water).** EU total: 28.
- ❑ **2016 call for Full IP - Proposals Invited: 3 (1 Waste, 2 Water).** EU total: 23.

Source: European Commission/EASME. “Country Factsheet”- Italy. Last update: 14/10/16



# LIFE at 25: the challenge of the “Knowledge Platform”

***“The Knowledge Platform” - Best practices for the Environment and Climate Action, designed by the Italian LIFE NCP, is an useful tool to better integrate LIFE projects’ results into policies and legislation framework.***



## Introduction

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In Italy there is a **large number of projects, co-funded by the EC within different Programmes and initiatives (not only LIFE, but also CIP-Eco Innovation, Intelligent Energy Europe, 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development, Alpine Space Programme 2007-2013. etc.), which have successfully experimented environmental and climate solutions, techniques, methods and approaches.**

Moreover, **these projects** have enriched the knowledge base of the environmental and climate issues, **contributing with their results to the implementation as well as the further development of related EU policies and legislation.**



High capital projects,  
Solutions, Techniques,  
Methods and Approaches

## The idea originated from a need

Considering the **large number of projects** implemented in Italy in the fields of environment and climate action, it was considered necessary to make a **strategic and pragmatic choice aimed at systematizing all the best practices developed in order to enhance and capitalize these experiences at national and local level.**

Through the Platform we want to...

Enhance and capitalize the project experiences in the fields of environment and climate action

Disseminate, share and transfer knowledge at central and local level

## Replicability within the «Knowledge Platform»

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**Replicability** is the potential of a project to be replicated during and after its implementation. It involves putting the techniques, methods or approaches developed or applied in the project into practice elsewhere.

The «Knowledge Platform» can facilitate the replication of the project's results and experiences beyond the project (including in other sectors, entities, regions or countries).

In particular, within the «Knowledge Platform» **“replicability”** means **adapting efficient solutions** (ready to be implemented) **already tested in Italy to other** (Italian and European) **geographic areas which face same environmental and climate issues.**

**Adapt solution already tested in different areas**

## What is the main aim?

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The **main objective** of the Knowledge Platform is to **facilitate the access to best practices, contributing to transfer them** to those seeking tested solutions that can be easily implemented by public authorities or by the productive system (SME), **in order to improve the effectiveness and impact of public funding.**

The Platform is a **knowledge management tool** (always updated). It works as an instrument to collect all the best practices and it is also going to become the **hub for a national communication campaign** aimed at promoting the knowledge of the proven solutions.

*Facilitate the access to the best practices and improve the effective use of the public funds*

*Increase the knowledge of the tested solutions in the fields of environment and climate action*

## The main specific objectives:

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- **Facilitating the replication and implementation of the projects' results;**
- **Putting in touch** the best practices' developers with all those who are willing to replicate these actions;
- **Enhancing the effectiveness** in the use of Community funds and **increasing the results of the best practices** for the environment and climate action;
- **Supporting the networking** with other thematic platforms;
- **Fostering public - private partnerships;**
- **Inspiring legislative and policy updates.**

## First focus

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**Collecting all the best practices** co-funded in Italy during the programming periods 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 and **sharing** these practices (in Italy and in Europe) **with all those who are planning to invest in environmental and climate actions.**

## Sharing



## Second focus

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Ensuring optimal use of the European public funding in support of environmental protection and climate change adaptation/mitigation, maximizing the impact and effectiveness of financial resources under programmes run directly or indirectly by the EC.

### Complementarity



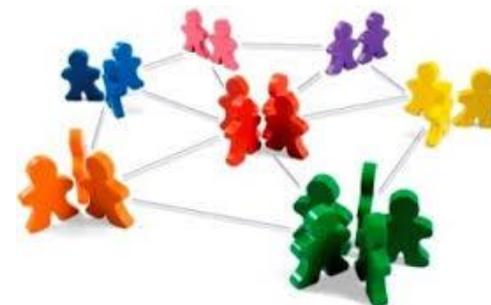
## Third focus

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**Avoiding that investments are an end in themselves, but rather ensuring that these have a greater impact on territories and a sustainability over time.**

**In this regard it is necessary to enhance the synergy between different EU funds and programmes.**

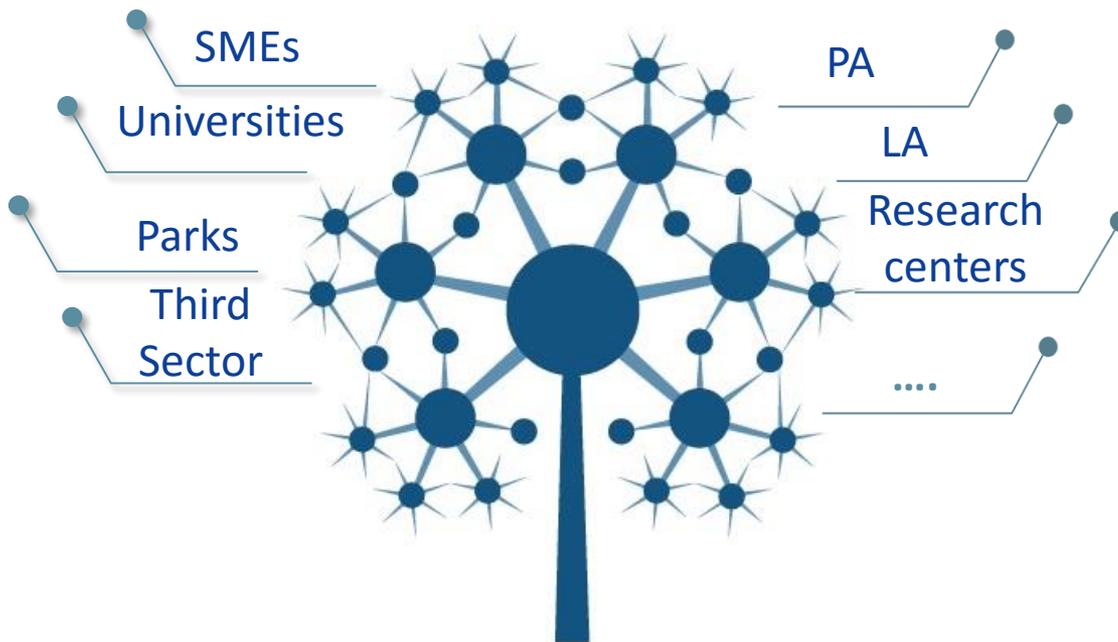
### Sinergy



## Who are the intended users?

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The Platform is addressed to all public and private entities that plan to invest in the environment, providing them with methods, techniques and approaches that have already been successfully tested in Italy.



## The structure: main features

The **Knowledge Platform** is a **dynamic web site** - connected to the web portal of the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea - that allows visitors to stay informed about the latest environmental and climate solutions in the following 8 thematic areas:

- Waste
- Nature and Biodiversity
- Water
- Soil
- Energy
- Urban environment
- Resources efficiency
- Climate

The **best practices** collected in these 8 thematic areas include **technical files setting out the results achieved by the projects and the main deliverables produced** (*Guidelines, handbooks, software, etc.*).

These deliverables represent **useful working tools for stakeholders interested in replicating the best practices.**

Dynamic web site



8 thematic areas



Technical files of the best practices

(classified in thematic areas and programmes)



# The Knowledge Platform



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italiano English

HOME THE PLATFORM POLICY AND REGULATION THEMES PROGRAMMES FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS PROJECTS GEOGRAPHY NEWS AND EVENTS

## PROJECT



Video associated

### Newsletter registration

Form fields for newsletter registration: First name, Last name, Email

I agree with terms and conditions
According to the "Code relating to the "Codice in materia di protezione dei dati personali" (D.Lgs 196/03), we inform you that Personal data will be processed in electronic format and will be used for strictly connected purposes and instrumental to the provision of the requested service.

Send



## Technical file

### ACT - Adapting to Climate Change in Time

#### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Climate change is a real challenge that requires the strengthening of adaptation actions at different levels, (national, regional and local), to prevent extreme events that, on the basis of forecasts, would increasingly affect our cities.

In this context, the main goal of ACT project - Adapting to Climate Change in Time - was to develop a Local Adaptation Strategy, by means of a well-defined, integrated and participatory methodological process, that was also shared by all local actors on the territory. This strategy is meant to take into consideration the environmental, social and economic impacts of climate change to increase the resilience of cities dealing with the phenomenon. The methodology has been implemented by the three local partners of the project - the Municipalities of Ancona (Italy), Bullas (Spain) and Patras (Greece). Although every area has its own peculiarities, the Mediterranean basin regions - some of the most vulnerable areas to climate change - face similar issues, for this reason it has been possible to identify a common methodology and process to be replicated in several contexts.

The project had the following objectives:

- Definition of an integrated methodology to support local governments in the creation and implementation of adaptation actions aimed at reducing the impacts of climate change in urban areas;
• Development of Local Adaptation Plans for each project partner city;
• Improving the competences of local authorities in understanding the impacts and effects of climate change on the territory and on the local communities, as well as in planning and implementing appropriate policies and projects;
• Raising awareness of local actors (industries, citizens, health system, Civil Protection Department, etc.) on local adaptation strategy, facilitating the dialogue between Public administration, Research centers and Private sector.

#### PROJECT PHASES

The main project phases were the following:

- Project management, in addition to the establishment of a coordinating group for the whole project and partnership, in each partner city Local Adaptation Boards (multidisciplinary and intersectoral working groups) were created;
• Baseline scenario and capacity building. In this phase all available data were collected and selected and the local climate forecasting scenario was elaborated. Capacity building activities on risk assessment and planning were also carried out;
• Local Impact Assessment: a road map was developed to guide local authorities (through a common methodology) towards an integrated adaptation strategy for their territories, taking into account economic, social and environmental references;
• Local adaptation strategies: this part focused on the development of local adaptation plans for Ancona, Bullas and Patras. In addition, through a peer review process, an evaluation of the results was carried out that led to the development of the methodological guidelines for the local authorities interested in developing a similar path;
• Communication and dissemination of results, in particular, of the Guidelines.

#### PROJECT RESULTS

ACT project, through a participatory and shared process between local actors, has led to the definition of an integrated methodology and the creation of tools to support local administrations in the creation and implementation of adaptation actions aimed at reducing the climate change impacts in urban areas (eg. flood/flooding, landslide risk, air pollution etc.). This also paved the way for starting local resilience paths, considered fundamental for the future of communities, in the three partner cities.

The main results of the project were:

- Creation of Local Adaptation Boards - LAB (working groups) composed of individuals internal or external to the local authorities, which include representatives of the following sectors: environmental protection, soil safeguard, protection of water resources, civil protection, infrastructure, trade and industry, tourism, communication. The LAB allowed to launch a multi-level participation process and to deal with this kind of issues from the perspective of a public-private partnership;
• Elaboration of a Road Map to support the cities in the implementation of an integrated strategy of local adaptation. The document, on the basis of local impact assessments performed by each municipality, was designed to support the needs of start-up activities and the subsequent development of the path for adopting Local Adaptation Plans; to identify the most vulnerable sectors upon which to build the Plans; to define the approach and the strategic direction to be taken at a local level, to provide useful recommendations for the construction of an effective process of adaptation;
• Publication of the "Climate change impact assessment and local vulnerability" analysis about climate change impacts on the environment and socio-economic systems in the cities of Ancona, Bullas and Patras;
• Definition of 3 Local Adaptation Plans officially approved by the municipal councils of the three pilot cities. Plans were defined through a participatory path and with the involvement of different local actors from the main sectors engaged in the project (urban planning, construction, water management, health, hydrogeological risk management, industrial risk management) and had the priority to fight climate change by increasing the resilience of individual communities;
• Publication of the guidelines "Planning for adaptation to climate change" for municipalities. The purpose of the Guidelines is to grant practical and operational support to public administrations interested in starting a process towards adaptation to climate change.



MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE



# The Knowledge Platform

## The structure: the main features

The web site: a recap of the main navigation sections

Home

The Platform

Policy and Regulation

Thematic areas

Programmes

Financial instruments

Project geography

News and events

# The Knowledge Platform

## The structure: Home page



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Italiano English

HOME

THE PLATFORM

POLICY AND REGULATION

THEMES

PROGRAMMES

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

PROJECTS GEOGRAPHY

NEWS AND EVENTS



NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY



WATER



URBAN ENVIRONMENT



ENERGY



SOIL



CLIMATE CHANGE



RESOURCES EFFICIENCY



WASTE

The Knowledge platform has been conceived as a mean of sharing the best practices related to environment and climate suitable to be replicated and transferred, as well as to network all those stakeholders who have developed the best practices in the field of Environment and Climate with potential replicators



# The Knowledge Platform

## The structure: an example of navigation section - «News and events»

The screenshot shows the website's header with logos for the European Union, the Italian Government, and the Ministry of the Environment. The main navigation bar includes: HOME, THE PLATFORM, POLICY AND REGULATION, THEMES, PROGRAMMES, FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, PROJECTS GEOGRAPHY, and NEWS AND EVENTS (highlighted). The 'News and events' section features four news items:

- National Conference on the protection and enhancement of the Italian forest heritage**  
7th November - The National Forum on Forests will be held on November 29th in Rome. The Forum is organized in collaboration with the "Table on timber supply chain" of the Italian Ministry for Agriculture, Food and Forestry within the National Rural Network Programme's activities ...
- Side event "Knowledge Platform". COP22 - 11th November 2016 Marrakech**  
31st October - The next 11th of November at 15:30 will be held the "Knowledge Platform" side event within the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties COP22 in Marrakech that represents an important occasion for sharing the purposes of this dynamic web site implemented by...
- TECHITALY 2016 Conference on circular economy. 29-30 November 2016 Brussels**  
25th October - The latest Italian technology innovations in the field of circular economy will be presented in the 2016 edition of Techitaly 29 - 30 November. The event promote the Italian technology excellences in relevant industrial sectors. The core subject of this edition will be related to...
- Launch Event of "Knowledge Platform" - 14 June 2016. Rome (IMELS)**

On the right side of the news section, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram, and a 'Newsletter registration' form with fields for 'First name', 'Last name', and 'Email', and a 'Send' button. Below the form, there is a checkbox for 'I agree with terms and conditions' and a small disclaimer text.

### Updates:

- News (Calls, New opportunities, etc.)
- Events (Conferences, Workshops, Meetings, etc.)



## Social networks

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Particular importance is also given to the social networks. Indeed these tools promote the dialogue and the active participation of users and stakeholders:



Facebook: **Piattaforma delle conoscenze**



Twitter: **@PDCminambiente**



You tube: **Piattaforma delle conoscenze**



Istagram: **Piattaforma delle conoscenze**

● Dialogue,  
● Active participation,  
● Interection

## In the near future

*The «Knowledge Platform» is a dynamic website ...*

*... to date ...*

Currently the website contains :

- 80 technical files on best practices;
- 150 documents about Italian and European policies and legislation regarding environment and climate action;
- 8 thematic areas;
- 5 EU programmes and initiatives.

*...in the future...*

By the end of 2017 the Platform will include about 100 best practices and these will be over 300 at the end of the programming period 2014-2020.



## ▶ Slovenian LIFE team made capacity-building visit to Italy

The **Slovenian LIFE team**, within the LIFE Slovenian Capacity Building project, **met the beneficiaries of seven Italian LIFE projects and visited some of the project sites over a four-day visit (4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup> April 2017).**

Some members of the Italian LIFE NCP team accompanied the Slovenian delegation on its trips to **Treviso, Modena, Florence and Perugia.**



## ➤ Slovenian team made capacity-building visit to Italy

The Slovenian LIFE team visited those LIFE projects addressing topics of most relevance to potential Slovenian applicants:

- LIFE Plastic Killer (LIFE12 ENV/IT/000374)
- SILIFFE (LIFE14/NAT/IT/003809)
- GREENJOIST (LIFE13 ENV\_IT\_000996)
- LIFE+ Climate changE-R (LIFE12 ENV/IT/000404)
- EREMITA (LIFE14 NAT/IT/000209)
- FRESH LIFE (LIFE14/IT000414)
- U-SAVEREDS (LIFE13 BIO\_IT\_000204)





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Environment and Climate Action through **LIFE**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!**

