

## **What is the Life Project**

### **LIFE**

In 1992, after the two important Community Directives (79/209/EEC – Birds Directive and 92/43/EEC – Habitats Directive) were adopted, a new financial tool, called LIFE, was created according to EEC Regulation 1973. Its scope was to contribute across Europe to the implementation and the development of the community policies in the sectors of environment and environmental legislation. It is the only channel of community funding exclusively dedicated to environmental conservation, through which round a thousand projects have been developed in three different programs: LIFE I from 1992 to 1995, LIFE II from 1995 to 2000 and LIFE III from 2000 to 2006.

The new LIFE+ program (link <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/index.htm> ) was published in June 2007 with a total budget of 2.143 million EURO, for the period from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2013.

It is subdivided into the following branches:

**LIFE Nature and Biodiversity:** it tributes to the implementation of Community policy and legislation on nature and biodiversity, in particular Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC, and to support the further development and implementation of the Natura 2000 network;

**LIFE Information and communication:** it co-finances projects that spread information about environmental issues, such as climate change and conservation. This strand of LIFE+ can also support forest fire prevention awareness and training campaigns;

**LIFE Environment policy and governance:** it supports technological projects that offer significant environmental benefits, for example process or efficiency improvements. This part of LIFE+ also helps projects that improve the implementation of EU environmental legislation, that build the environmental policy knowledge base, and that develop environmental information sources through monitoring (including forest monitoring)..

LINK: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>

## **NATURA 2000**

The Natura 2000 network is the main instrument of the European Union for the conservation of biodiversity. It is an ecological network developed across the whole territory of the Union, according to the Directive 92/43/EEC "Habitats Directive" to guarantee the long term conservation of natural habitats and of threatened or rare species of wild flora and fauna at community level

LINK: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/index_en.htm)