

JNCC took on the UK LIFE National Contact Point from 01 January 2016 and these presentations/documents are from events under the previous LIFE NCP, Beta Technology. For further information on UK LIFE please see the dedicated webpages at: jncc.defra.gov.uk/UKLIFE

DEVELOPING A PROPOSAL UNDER ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY STRAND



GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES

ABOUT US



- ✓ **COMMUNITIES & YOUNG PEOPLE**
70,000 days of community and volunteer activity
- ✓ **YOUTH, EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS**
12,000 training weeks delivered + 575 jobs created or safeguarded
- ✓ **URBAN LANDSCAPES & OPEN SPACE**
28 hectares of land improved & 139h maintained
- ✓ **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**
+ 500 tonnes of waste saved from landfill
£1.84m in grants to voluntary & community organisations



OUR TRACK RECORD WITH LIFE PROGRAMME



- ✓ LIFE 12 ENV/UK/001133 – Climate proofing social landscapes Hammersmith and Fulham
- ✓ LIFE 13 ENV/UK/000493 – Repurpose - community-led reuse enterprises
- ✓ LIFE 15 ENV/UK/000679 – LIFE 4 CITY RIVERS – submitted 1st October 2015



CITY RIVERS 4 LIFE PROJECT OVERVIEW



✓ PROJECT PURPOSE

Focusing on urban river catchments, this project will develop and demonstrate a transferable model for engaging multiple landowners and stakeholders in targeted sustainable drainage actions to mitigate surface water flood risk and deliver improvements in water quality, contributing to delivery of Water Framework Directive (WFD) and Flood Directive (FD) objectives.

✓ PROBLEMS THE PROJECT WILL ADDRESS:

FLOODING - Urban areas, with extensive impermeable surfaces and surface water drainage infrastructure that was not designed to meet the demands currently placed on it, are particularly vulnerable to flooding. Climate change is increasing the pressure on the system.

POOR WATER QUALITY - In many EU cities, water bodies are failing to achieve their water quality potential for reasons including land use pressures, combined sewer overflows, poorly directed drainage and drainage misconnections.

LACK OF AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT – large sections of the general public and land users in urban river catchments are unaware of catchment functioning, the existence and benefits of sustainable drainage techniques, and the role they can play in improving catchment health and functioning.

FRAGMENTED GOVERNANCE – Catchment-wide partnerships and plans are established, as part of the Catchment Based Approach, however addressing surface water management, flood risk and issues of water quality is a significant challenge because the urban geography of multiple land ownerships, multiple local authorities and estuaries with exceptionally extensive and complex catchments.

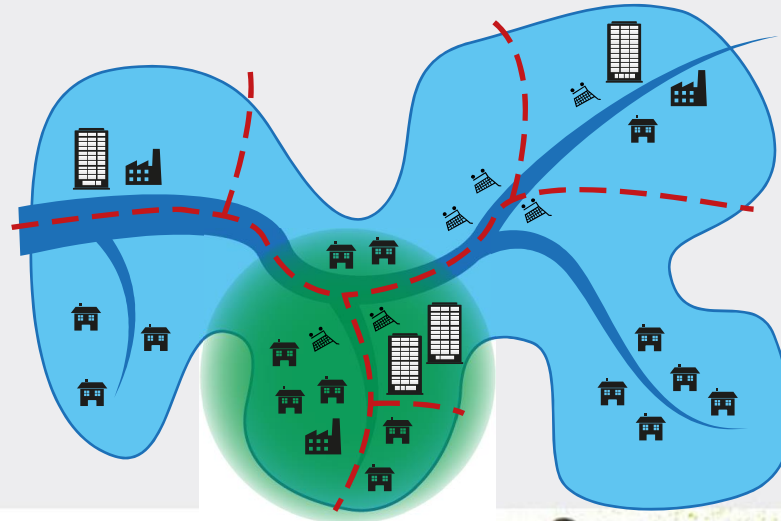


CITY RIVERS 4 LIFE PROJECT OVERVIEW



City Rivers 4 Life will trial **Catchment Action Areas** as a means for engaging multiple land users in shared or networked actions (i.e. part of an agreed programme) to address the issues of surface water flooding and water quality at sub-catchment level in areas where the problems of flooding, poor water quality and poor stakeholder awareness are most acute. This will be achieved through co-ordinated practical interventions supported by engagement and education activities that raise catchment consciousness and foster a sense of riparian responsibility across communities.

The **Catchment Action Area** is a community/local delivery mechanism working in support of wider catchment planning objectives.



ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY



- ✓ Selecting the most appropriate topic for your project's objectives
- ✓ Demonstration or pilot?
- ✓ Developing the summary of the objectives, deliverables and budget using Logical Framework approach
- ✓ Choosing your partners and working together to develop a full proposal



LESSONS LEARNT



1. Building a bidding team - key for a smooth bid development
2. There is never enough time! – give yourself as much time as possible
3. Planning and preparation is key
4. Treat the development of the application as a project itself
5. Develop the key elements of the project early:
 - **WHO** - which partners will be involved? Ensure their financial commitment
 - **WHY** - what is their role in the project, how do they add value
 - **WHERE** - especially for demonstration projects, why have you chosen the proposed area
 - **WHEN** - when can you start and how much time do you need to deliver?
 - **HOW MUCH** - work out your initial budget figures and partners contribution early



A, B,C, D ...FORMS – get used to this terminology!



✓ A FORMS – Administrative Forms

- Senior sign off - as early as possible!
- Specific way in how the beneficiary declarations are automatically generated in E-proposal...
- Work out the difference between co-financier and an associated beneficiary!

✓ B FORMS – Technical Forms

- **B1: Summary Description** – this is your executive summary – finalise it in the end!
- **B2: Environmental Problem** – this is the most “academic” part of the bid
- **B2: Demonstration Character** – how can you demonstrate that the concept can be transferrable and replicable?
- **B3: EU Added Value** – Read policies and refer to them as much as you can
- **B3: Socio - Economic effects of the project**– self explanatory
- **B3: Efforts for reducing the project’s “carbon footprint”** – project specific – not organisation!
- **B4: Stakeholders and Target audience** – distinguish their roles and functions
- **B5: Risks and Constraints** – do your SWOT analysis
- **B6: Continuation/Valorisation** – how will the project continue after LIFE funding?

READ, RE-READ AND RE-READ GUIDANCE AGAIN!!!!

A, B,C, ...FORMS – get used to this terminology!



✓ C FORMS – Project Actions

- Do not underestimate the detail required here – you really need to show that your project is deliverable
- The milestones and outputs listed here will be those you report on – it is difficult to make the adjustments once you are awarded funding
- Factor more time than you think you need - there are almost always unforeseen delays
- All actions need to be fully costed - duly consider your resources that you will need

✓ F FORMS – Financial Part

- Be mindful of the maximum % of project costs that can be attributed to external assistance
- Bear in mind maximum variations that are allowed between budgets if approved
- Agree the funding contributions and intervention rates for the beneficiaries

READ, RE-READ AND RE-READ GUIDANCE AGAIN!!!!

TRICKY ISSUES SPOTTED



- The E- proposal did not allow us to append any pdf files to the sections of the application. Each appendix needed to be saved as jpeg
- There is no clear indication where in the form the letters of support should be uploaded
- Letters of support longer than 1 page were reordered in a random way once uploaded
- The online system doesn't allow to paste tables – especially important in sections e.g. B4 - Stakeholders Involved
- The online system doesn't give much options for editing the text
- The Microsoft Office Word calculates characters differently to the online system
- Do not forget to append your maps! Prepare them early
- The 2015 Guidance doesn't mention Project Specific Indicators being an obligatory part of the submission – well they are....
- Remember that you can submit your proposal and then edit it until the deadline – it's safer than uploading everything close to the deadline

On a positive side.... The E- proposal didn't crash this year!



THANK YOU



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