

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](http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/UKLIFE)



January 2015

## LIFE NEWS

### 2014 Call – Evaluation update and timetable

Confirmation has been provided by EASME (who administer the LIFE Programme on behalf of the Commission - <http://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/environment>) that those applicants to the 2014 call who have not yet heard from the EC are now being considered in the award phase. This is an in-depth evaluation of their quality, potentially leading to the revision phase as the next step. Applicants unsuccessful at the technical selection phase have already been informed. Based on the schedule from previous calls, revision questions are likely to be e-mailed to applicants in mid-late March. Further information on the revision phase process can be found in the appropriate evaluation guides.

### Concept notes for 2015 call – summary of project ideas received across the priority themes and planned future events and webinars, including Log Frame training workshops

Following the November 2014 deadline, Beta received 42 concept notes in relation to the forthcoming 2015 call (yet to be formally announced by the Commission). Consensus led feedback has been provided to all the co-ordinating beneficiaries involved, and two 'Logical Framework' training workshops have been scheduled for February, (Peterborough) and March (York), for those selected invitees whose projects show the greatest promise. Those applicants that have not been invited to the Log Frame training workshops may be interested to view the Log Frame training presentations from the 2014 proposal writing workshop which can be found on the Beta Europe portal at <http://www.betaeurope.co.uk/Tips.htm>.

As part of supporting further participation in the LIFE Programme, additional events and webinars around common issues are planned, and the forward schedule will be publicised in due course, but following on from the log frame training, a proposal writing workshop has been arranged for 27th March, 2015, at Europe House, Smith Square, London. Whilst attendance will be primarily focused on those applicants that will have attended the Log Frame workshops, it may be possible to open up attendance to a wider audience, depending on available resources.

As an indication of potential application activity for the 2015 call, concept notes were received across the priority areas:

- Environment and Resource Efficiency - 12
- Nature and Biodiversity - 17
- Environmental Governance and information - 5
- [Climate Action] Climate Change Mitigation - 1
- [Climate Action] Climate Change Adaptation - 6
- [Climate Action] Climate Governance & Info - 1

### Launch of New LIFE Financial Instruments to Support Energy Efficiency and Preservation of Natural Capital

Two new financial instruments have been launched this month, funded through the LIFE Programme for

Environment and Climate Action. The Private Finance for Energy Efficiency Instrument (PF4EE) aims to address the limited access to adequate and affordable loan financing for energy efficiency projects, whilst the Natural Capital Financing Facility (NCFF) will provide loans and investments in funds to support projects which promote the preservation of natural capital, including adaptation to climate change. These instruments are not grants, but will take the form of loans, investments and guarantees. The aim is to catalyse investments with strong social and environmental benefits in low-carbon technology and resource efficiency sectors which would not be funded otherwise because they are considered as too high risk. Further details can be found at [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/news/newsarchive2015/january/index.htm?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter#funding](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/news/newsarchive2015/january/index.htm?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter#funding)

## EVENTS

### Scottish LIFE information day November 2014

Scotland Europa held a Scottish Information Day on 20th November 2014 in Glasgow on 'LIFE and EU funding for the environment 2014-2020'. The event was organised on behalf of the Scottish LIFE Focus Group, which also brought together the Scottish Government, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, and the UK National Contact Point. For reference, the relevant presentations providing advice and case studies, including how to develop a project from a coordinator perspective, are available at <https://www.scotlandeuropa.com/news>;

[Rickard Eksten - EU Environment Policy context 2014 and beyond](#) – Scotland Europa

[Steve Bradley - UK LIFE Support](#) – UK LIFE NCP

[Antony Davies - LIFE Programme](#) – Beta Technology

[Tamsin Morris - LIFE+ Lessons Learnt](#) – Walking the Talk

[Jason Watts - The Ins and Outs of LIFE](#) – Scottish Natural Heritage

## PUBLICATIONS

### Latest EC LIFE Programme leaflet – available in hard copy and e-version (PDF)

The Commission has distributed the most recently published hard copy version of the general leaflet describing the LIFE Programme, and along with the e-version, its available from the EU bookshop at <http://bookshop.europa.eu/en/the-life-programme-pbKH0214418/>. Beta also has hard copies of the leaflet which are freely available on request.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Beta's LIFE NCP Team

Many of you will be aware that Catherine Holt left Beta in November and has been replaced as the LIFE NCP by Steve Bradley. Steve has been with Beta for nearly seven years and move across from a role supporting SMEs in FP7 & Horizon 2020, so he is well versed in EU funding. Beta director Antony Davies continues to support the LIFE team, having been involved with Beta's LIFE NCP role since 2007. As part of broadening the scope for providing assistance within the Beta LIFE support team, Janet Williams has recently joined as a new member, working alongside Antony and Steve.

With a background in environmental consultancy, Janet has spent the last nine years evaluating LIFE environment proposals and understands what evaluators look for, what they hope to find - and why so many questions are asked during the revision process! This background will introduce a different approach within the support team, allowing us to consider the requirements of a good proposal from the perspective of an evaluator, and the need to quickly understand and appreciate its salient points. In turn this will hopefully increase the chances of a successful UK funding application, by providing clear and unambiguous

information, making evaluation easier to allow the important answers to evaluation questions to be readily found within the proposal, to maximise the evaluation score, and stand out amongst the many submitted (1500 total number submitted for LIFE+ 2013).

Away from the LIFE Programme, Janet likes to sail, walk and garden... just so you know...

## CONTACT

E-mail: [life@betatechnology.co.uk](mailto:life@betatechnology.co.uk)

Telephone: 01302 322633

Web: [www.betaeurope.co.uk](http://www.betaeurope.co.uk)

Beta Technology Ltd. Barclay Court, Doncaster Carr, Doncaster DN4 5HZ  
Registered Address: Beta Technology Ltd is registered in England & Wales Company No. 1840055

Beta

The services Beta provides are on behalf of the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, these services are free and confidential.

- 1) Helpline providing information ranging from general questions about LIFE funding to detailed advice on proposal content.
- 2) Assistance with project planning, partner searching, proposal writing and preparation.
- 3) Liaison with UK government and the EC. If you have a question or query we are happy to ask it on your behalf.
- 4) Website [www.betaeurope.co.uk](http://www.betaeurope.co.uk)

Beta also provides a range of bespoke commercial consultancy services, please see [www.betatechnology.co.uk](http://www.betatechnology.co.uk) for more information.

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