

Bruxelles, le 23 juillet 2010

La Commission va financer plus de 200 nouveaux projets LIFE+ à hauteur de 250 millions €

La Commission européenne a approuvé le financement de 210 nouveaux projets dans le cadre du troisième appel à propositions pour le programme LIFE+ (2007-2013), qui est l'instrument financier européen pour l'environnement. Les projets proviennent de toute l'UE et incluent des actions dans les domaines de la conservation de la nature et de la politique environnementale, ainsi que de l'information et de la communication. Ensemble, ils représentent un investissement total de 515 millions €, dont 249,8 millions seront financés par l'Union européenne.

M. Janez Potočnik, membre de la Commission européenne chargé de l'environnement, a déclaré à ce propos: «*Le programme LIFE+ continue à financer des projets novateurs de grande qualité apportant une forte valeur ajoutée à l'UE. Je suis convaincu que ces nouveaux projets vont non seulement contribuer à la conservation de la nature et à l'amélioration de l'environnement mais également accroître, dans toute l'Europe, la sensibilisation aux grands défis environnementaux auxquels nous sommes confrontés, à savoir la diminution de la biodiversité, la pénurie d'eau et le changement climatique.*»

Lors de l'appel à propositions, qui a été clôturé en novembre 2009, la Commission a reçu plus de 600 propositions d'organismes publics et privés des 27 États membres de l'UE. Parmi ces propositions, 210 ont été sélectionnées en vue d'un cofinancement au titre des trois volets du programme: LIFE+ Nature et biodiversité, LIFE+ Politique et gouvernance en matière d'environnement et LIFE+ Information et communication.

Les projets **LIFE+ Nature et biodiversité** améliorent l'état de conservation des espèces et des habitats menacés. Sur les 194 propositions reçues, la Commission a retenu, en vue d'un financement, 84 projets émanant de partenariats réunissant des associations de protection de la nature, des autorités gouvernementales et d'autres parties. Situés dans 24 États membres, ils représentent un investissement total de 224 millions €, dont quelque 124 millions seront pris en charge par l'Union européenne. La majorité des projets (74) concernent la nature et contribuent à la mise en œuvre des directives «Habitats» et/ou «Oiseaux» ainsi que du réseau Natura 2000. Les dix autres projets portent sur la biodiversité; il s'agit d'une catégorie de projets LIFE+ ayant trait à des initiatives pilotes qui abordent des problèmes plus vastes liés à la biodiversité. La Commission se félicite de l'augmentation constante du nombre de projets portant sur la biodiversité financés depuis 2007 (quatre projets), date à laquelle cette catégorie de projets a été mise en place.

Les projets **LIFE+ Politique et gouvernance en matière d'environnement** sont des projets pilotes qui contribuent au développement de stratégies, de technologies, de méthodes et d'instruments novateurs. Sur les 308 propositions reçues, la Commission a retenu, en vue d'un financement, 116 projets qui lui avaient été soumis par un large éventail d'organisations publiques et privées. L'investissement total pour les projets retenus, répartis dans 17 États membres, s'élève à 278 millions €, dont 120 millions environ seront financés par l'Union européenne. Les projets consacrés à l'innovation drainent la majeure partie du financement de l'UE (quelque 20,9 millions € pour 17 projets). Les domaines les plus traités au regard du nombre de projets sont les déchets et les ressources naturelles (20 projets bénéficiant de 19,3 millions €), suivis par l'eau et l'innovation (17 projets chacun). Les soixante-trois projets restants portent sur différents thèmes, notamment l'air, les substances chimiques, le changement climatique, l'énergie, l'environnement et la santé, les forêts, le bruit, la protection des sols, les approches stratégiques et l'environnement urbain.

Les projets **LIFE+ Information et communication** visent à diffuser des informations et à amener les questions environnementales sur le devant de la scène, ainsi qu'à proposer des actions de formation et de sensibilisation pour la prévention des incendies de forêt. Sur les 113 propositions reçues, la Commission a retenu, en vue d'un financement, 10 projets émanant de diverses organisations publiques et privées de protection de la nature et/ou de l'environnement, qui portent sur des sujets tels que la biodiversité, le changement climatique, les déchets et l'eau. L'investissement total pour les projets retenus, répartis dans sept (7) États membres, s'élève à 12,9 millions €, dont 6,3 millions environ seront financés par l'Union européenne.

Le programme LIFE+

LIFE+ est l'instrument financier européen pour l'environnement, doté d'un budget total de 2 143 millions € (deux mille cent quarante-trois millions d'euros) pour la période 2007-2013. Au cours de cette période, la Commission lancera chaque année un appel à propositions pour les projets LIFE+.

Pour de plus amples informations:

Voir en annexe le résumé de tous les nouveaux projets financés au titre du programme LIFE+, ventilés par pays.

Pour plus de précisions sur les nouveaux projets Nature et biodiversité, voir:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/publications/lifepublications/compilations/documents/natcompilation09.pdf>

Pour plus de précisions sur les nouveaux projets Politique et gouvernance en matière d'environnement, voir:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/publications/lifepublications/compilations/documents/envcompilation09.pdf>

Pour plus de précisions sur les nouveaux projets Information et communication, voir:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/publications/lifepublications/compilations/documents/infcompilation09.pdf>

Pour l'ensemble des informations sur LIFE+, voir:

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

Il est également possible de contacter les autorités nationales compétentes:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/contact/nationalcontact/index.htm>

Annexes

BELGIQUE – 7 projets (21,2 millions)

LIFE+ Politique et gouvernance en matière d'environnement (4 projets – 8,6 millions)

- **Renew4GPP** (Firma Dam De Saedeleir NV)

Le projet vise à encourager l'écologisation des marchés publics (green public procurement, GPP) en démontrant aux autorités municipales les avantages écologiques de trois produits de jardinage novateurs de grande qualité, obtenus à partir de ressources renouvelables à 100 %. Ces produits peuvent remplacer les produits de paillage classiques, qui sont fabriqués à partir de produits pétroliers.

- **VOPAK-EXPERO3** (Vopak Chemical Terminals Belgium NV)

L'objectif de ce projet est de démontrer l'applicabilité d'une technique d'oxydation chimique in situ pour la dépollution des sols et des eaux souterraines contaminés par un cocktail de polluants organiques en concentrations très élevées sur un site sensible aux explosions.

- **ATMOSYS** (Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek NV)

L'objectif de ce projet est de créer, évaluer et présenter en démonstration un système perfectionné de modélisation de la qualité de l'air avec service internet associé, contenant de nouveaux éléments spécialement conçus pour servir d'appui à la politique de lutte contre la pollution de l'air dans les régions sensibles. Le système reposera sur une technologie avancée, notamment des modèles informatiques de prévisions atmosphériques en 3 D.

- **DEMOCOPHESII** (Service public fédéral de santé publique, sécurité de la chaîne alimentaire et environnement)

Le principal objectif de ce projet est de démontrer la faisabilité d'une approche harmonisée de la surveillance biologique humaine (Human Biological Monitoring, HBM) dans l'UE par la mise en œuvre d'une étude pilote dans 16 États membres et le partage de l'expertise avec cinq pays supplémentaires qui seront des membres ad hoc de ce projet.

LIFE + Nature (3 projets – 12,3 millions)

- **LIFE Kleine Nete** (Natuurpunt Beheer vzw)

Le projet vise à rétablir: 52 ha d'un ensemble d'habitats de l'annexe I qui sont soumis à des écoulements, des inondations et/ou (dans la partie inférieure du cours d'eau) à des marées d'eaux douces; 17 ha d'habitats de l'annexe I situés sur un sol sec, pauvre, sablonneux, servant de zone intermédiaire entre le plateau de Campine et les landes en Flandre; et 3 ha du précieux habitat «eaux stagnantes, oligotrophes à mésotrophes» de l'annexe I et les espèces qui leur sont associées telles que la libellule et la grenouille taureau.

- **ZTAR** (Agentschap voor Natuur en Bos)

Le projet vise à rétablir la riche biodiversité de ce site Natura 2000 d'importance internationale en procédant à une restauration à grande échelle de la dynamique écologique dans la zone du Zwin, permettant ainsi la mise en œuvre appropriée des directives «Oiseaux» et «Habitats».

- **Life Itter en Oeter** (Natuurpunt Beheer vzw)

Ce projet vise à lutter contre les menaces qui pèsent sur les espèces énumérées aux annexes des directives «Habitats» et «Oiseaux» dans les systèmes de ruisseaux de plaines du Bosbeek et d'Itterbeek, un site Natura 2000. À l'issue du projet, le site sera l'une des zones clés dans les plaines d'Europe pour les habitats et les espèces cibles.

FRANCE – 12 projets (28,9 millions)

LIFE+ Politique et gouvernance en matière d'environnement (9 projets – 22,2 millions)

- **ECOTRANSFLUX** (Five Celes)

Le projet Ecotransflux vise à démontrer que la technologie du chauffage par induction à flux transversal et à grande puissance peut être appliquée sur de nouvelles lignes de traitement dans les usines de laminage à froid de l'acier afin de réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre (GES) et les déchets acides, tout en respectant les critères économiques, de qualité et de capacité.

- **WaterRtoM** (Office International de l'Eau)

L'objectif général du projet est d'accélérer le transfert des résultats des recherches aux professionnels dans le secteur de la gestion de l'eau. Une méthode sera mise au point pour évaluer les avantages potentiels des nouveaux outils/ nouvelles méthodes pour mesurer le décalage entre la recherche et la mise sur le marché (la stratégie d'évaluation recherche-marché, the Research to Market Assessment Strategy, ReMAS). De plus, pour les résultats des recherches classés dans la catégorie «proche de la mise en oeuvre», une stratégie individualisée sera définie pour la mise en œuvre dans les entreprises grâce à une stratégie de commercialisation PMS (Precursors Marketing Strategy).

- **IRIS** (RHODIA Operations)

Le projet IRIS vise à démontrer la faisabilité à l'échelle industrielle d'un procédé chimique catalytique novateur pour transformer des coproduits de la chaîne de nylon polyamide 66 en un nouveau solvant sans danger et respectueux de l'environnement, Rhodiasolv IRIS: il est facilement biodégradable, ne contient pas de composés organiques volatils (COV), est non toxique, non cancérigène et non irritant.

- **AETHER** (LAFARGE LCR)

Le projet AETHER a pour but de montrer qu'il est possible de fabriquer un nouveau type de ciment à l'échelle industrielle dans les installations industrielles existantes, en produisant des émissions de CO₂ nettement inférieures à celles dues à la production de ciment Portland classique. Il s'agira de démontrer la performance d'un type novateur de clinker ayant une nouvelle composition chimique qui a fait ses preuves.

- **CLIMATE** (Conseil général de l'Essonne)

Le projet CLIMAT vise à développer et adopter un plan d'action territorial pour le climat pour le département de l'Essonne. L'objectif est d'observer des signes de réduction des émissions de GES dans l'Essonne d'ici à 2013, en vue de parvenir d'ici à 2020 à une réduction de 25 % - par rapport aux niveaux de 1990.

- **GREEN TESTING** (Innovations Extrêmes, Technologies & Recherche)

Le projet sera centré sur la démonstration de nouvelles pratiques et technologies respectueuses de l'environnement pour les essais non destructifs (END) de surface – une partie du procédé de fabrication des produits de grande qualité dans les secteurs de l'automobile, du nucléaire et de l'aéronautique. Il s'agira d'optimiser les protocoles et les méthodes de travail pour réduire la consommation d'énergie et les émissions dans l'air, dans l'eau et dans le sol, ainsi que la quantité de déchets produits.

- **C.C.H.P ENVIR CHALLENGES** (Communauté de Haute Provence)

L'objectif de ce projet LIFE est de démontrer l'efficacité de nouvelles approches territoriales en matière d'aménagement visant à améliorer la gestion des déchets de cuisine, le recyclage des déchets, l'efficacité énergétique ainsi que la protection des sols et des ressources hydriques. Il s'agira de créer un bâtiment de démonstration équipé de technologies respectueuses de l'environnement telles que la circulation d'air géothermique, la production de chaleur à l'aide de rondins de bois recyclé provenant d'un centre de réception des déchets, et les panneaux photovoltaïques pour la production d'électricité et le chauffage de l'eau.

- **GREENCITY** (VIZELIA)

L'objectif du projet LIFE Green City est de mettre en œuvre des logiciels permettant de limiter la consommation d'électricité, d'eau et de gaz dans les bâtiments publics. Au moyen de modèles 3D et de compteurs intelligents, le projet permettra de surveiller la consommation afin de gérer et de contrôler l'énergie en temps réel. Une plateforme web centralisera et contrôlera toutes les données concernant les bâtiments municipaux inclus dans le projet, faisant de ce dernier le projet le plus complet jamais mené dans ce domaine.

- **Green Waste Plast** (Union des syndicats des PME du caoutchouc et de la plasturgie)

L'objectif de ce projet LIFE est de démontrer que les déchets de plusieurs types de blisters ou d'emballages légers peuvent être réutilisables, et qu'il existe des procédés de recyclage novateurs et efficaces offrant d'autres solutions que l'incinération ou la mise en décharge. Une installation pilote utilisant des technologies novatrices telles que les granulateurs et les micronisateurs pour transformer, mouler et broyer des déchets dans une atmosphère cryogénique à basse température sera mise en place.

LIFE + Nature et biodiversité (3 projets – 6,7 millions)

LIFE+ Nature (1 projet)

- **MULETTE** (Bretagne Vivante – SEPNB)

Le projet vise à reconstituer les populations de moule perlière d'eau douce du massif armoricain (Bretagne). Il inclut six sites qui sont classés comme sites d'importance communautaire (SICp) et sont connus pour être les principaux refuges des populations de moule perlière d'eau douce dans l'ouest de la France.

LIFE+Biodiversité (2 projets)

- **CAPE DOM** (LPO)

Ce projet a pour objectif de contribuer à mettre fin à la perte de biodiversité dans trois départements français d'outre-mer (l'île de la Réunion, la Martinique et la Guyane française) en testant des outils de démonstration novateurs en matière de gestion de la conservation pour la protection des espèces d'oiseaux menacées et de leurs habitats, et en diffusant les résultats aux autres régions ultrapériphériques de l'UE.

- **BioDiVine** (Institut français de la Vigne et du Vin)

L'objectif de ce projet est de démontrer les avantages que présente le renforcement des structures du paysage comme moyen de rétablir et de conserver la biodiversité dans les vignobles cultivés. Cet objectif sera atteint en évaluant les actions en faveur de la biodiversité dans différents biotopes européens. Des espaces semi-naturels complémentaires seront créés dans les vignobles de sept sites d'essais situés dans trois pays (Portugal, Espagne, France) couvrant les régions atlantique, méditerranéenne et continentale.

LUXEMBOURG – 1 projet (5,3 millions)

LIFE+ Politique et gouvernance en matière d'environnement (1 projet – 5,3 millions)

- **ECO2 Tyre Tech** (Goodyear S.A)

Le projet développera des concepts de pneus respectueux de l'environnement, à base de nouveaux matériaux verts. Le bénéficiaire du projet vise à diminuer le poids, accroître le kilométrage et à réduire le bruit des pneus haut de gamme, tout en augmentant la quantité de matières recyclées et renouvelables entrant dans la fabrication des pneus. Les avantages écologiques et économiques seront validés au moyen du plus récent logiciel de calcul de l'empreinte carbone et de l'impact tout au long du cycle de vie.

AUSTRIA - 3 projects (13.3 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (One project - 5.9 million)

- **CEMOBIL** (Magistrat der Landeshauptstadt Klagenfurt am Wörthersee)

The aim of the project is to significantly reduce air and CO2 emissions in the city centre of Klagenfurt by increasing the share of electric vehicles to 10% of all new registrations.

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects - 7.4 million)

- **Flusslandschaft Enns** (Amt der Steiermärkischen Landesregierung)

The main objective of the project is to reduce the threats to the area around the river Enns by reconnecting alluvial forests and other valuable habitats with the river dynamics and improving the condition of remaining peatland habitats and orchid meadows in the river valley.

- **LIFE+ Großtrappe** (Österreichische Gesellschaft Großtrappenschutz)

The objectives of this LIFE+ project are to reduce the threat of collision with power lines, for many years the main cause of mortality among adult and immature great bustards in Austria, and at the same time to continue Austria's intensive habitat management efforts.

BULGARIA - 2 projects (3.3 million)

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects – 3.3 million)

- **Black Sea Oak Habitats** (Balchik State Hunting Area)

The overall objective of the Black Sea Oak Habitats project is to ensure long-term conservation of priority oak habitats by reforestation measures and management planning. These should provide favourable conditions for sustainable development of the target habitats (Pannonic woods with *Quercus petraea* and *Carpinus betulus*; Pannonian woods with *Quercus pubescens*; Euro-Siberian stepic woods with *Quercus spp*; and Eastern white oak forests).

- **Safe Ground Redbreasts** (Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds)

The project aims to introduce land-management measures in the Dobruzha region of northern Bulgaria to provide secure foraging grounds for the red-breasted goose. The intention is that this will stabilise the population of the most threatened goose species in the world in its wintering grounds.

CYPRUS - 2 projects (2.6 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (1 project – 1.3 milion)

- **PM3** (Department of Labour Inspection Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance)

The project aims to support the competent Cypriot authorities in preparing efficient and cost-effective particulate matter (PM) management. For this purpose, state-of-the art forecasting and scenario analysis software will be applied. The project will enhance data collection and processing capacities through the integration of remote-sensing technologies into the existing monitoring network.

LIFE+ Nature (1 project – 1.3 million)

- **ICOSTACY** (Environment Service - Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment of Cyprus)

The project's objectives are to improve the habitat of 20 targeted species within 14 Natura 2000 sites, to assess the conservation status of these species to complete knowledge gaps, to raise awareness among land users and the general public with regard to these species, and to provide evidence to support concrete proposals for enhancing the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 sites in Cyprus.

CZECH REPUBLIC - 2 projects (8.5 million)

LIFE+Nature (2 projects - 8.5 million)

- **Lounské Středohoří Steppe** (Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic)

The project aims to contribute to the maintenance and the restoration to favourable conservation status of the unique thermophilous habitats and species in the Lounské Středohoří hills. The project will seek to increase the populations of target species, improve overall species diversity and raise public awareness of thermophilous habitat types and species, their protection, maintenance and sustainable use.

- **Butterflies CZ-SK** (Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic)

The project aims to introduce, test and promote patchwork management, which is essential for the conservation of the target butterfly species. The project will also propose and test new agri-environmental measures, which should enable the inclusion of currently excluded areas under the agricultural subsidy scheme (c. 900 ha affected).

DENMARK - 5 projects (11 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (3 projects - 5.8 million)

- Climate Partnerships (Albertslund Kommune)

The project aims to mobilise local Public Private Partnerships (PPP) for climate solutions and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from private enterprises through PPP. It will do this by developing and demonstrating effective models for PPPs for climate planning and GHG reductions in private enterprises and by developing competences and tools in local administrations.

- Composites Waste (Grymer Group ApS)

The key objectives of the project are to develop a new waste business concept involving the sourcing and processing of composites waste into quality glass fibre materials and to demonstrate the use of processed composites waste material in two main industries: the production of asphalt for road-paving; and the production of exhaust systems and silencers.

- NorthPestClean (Region Midtjylland)

The main objective of the NorthPestClean project is to demonstrate, using large-scale pilot studies, that a novel remediation method based on in situ alkaline hydrolysis is an effective technology for cleaning pesticide contaminated soil and groundwater.

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects – 5.2 million)

- RAHID (Danish Forest and Nature Agency)

The main objective of the project is to restore some of Denmark's large areas of heath land. And improve the conservation status and, if possible, increase the surface area of dry sand heaths and inland dunes and *Juniperus communis* formations on heaths.

- CONNECT HABITATS (Faaborg-Midtfyn Kommune)

The Connect Habitats project aims to restore semi-natural dry grassland habitats in the Bøjden Nor nature reserve to a favourable conservation status. It also aims to improve the conservation status of coastal lagoons and Atlantic salt meadows, and enable their development inland in order to combat the impacts of climate change and coastal erosion.

ESTONIA - 1 project (2.6 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (1 project - 2.6 million)

- OSAMAT (Eesti Energia AS)

Every year some eleven million tonnes of oil shale is burned, producing more than six million tonnes of oil shale ash (OSA) This by-product is disposed of by spreading on land, causing pollution of rainwater. The objective of the project is to demonstrate the technical, environmental and economic feasibility of converting aggregates and additives (OSA) into a material that can be used in the construction sector.

FINLAND - 9 projects (16.6 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (8 projects - 14.6 million)

- **VOCless waste water** (Uudenkaupungin Rautavalimo Oy (Meehanite Technology Oy))

The project aims to reduce emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from mechanical and semi-chemical pulping processes and will specifically target VOCs in wastewater from the pulping process. It will demonstrate the viability of a VOC and odour abatement system in conditions characterised by fumes with high humidity, varying VOC concentrations, low oxygen content, the possible presence of sulphur compounds and large air-flows.

- **GISBLOOM** (Suomen ympäristökeskus)

The project aims to build capacity to integrate climate change effectively into river basin management plans in Finland. It will demonstrate an integrated model to quantify the effects of different climate-change scenarios to help tackle threats of eutrophication and algal blooms.

- **LCA IN LANDSCAPING** (MTT Agrifood Research Finland)

The project will demonstrate the many possibilities to use waste-derived materials in green cover (particularly in amenity lawn areas) construction and management. To this end it will conduct a lifecycle assessment (LCA) of the 20 demonstration sites. The LCA results are expected to show that the increased use of recycled materials in landscaping will reduce negative environmental impacts.

- **Climforisk (Metsäntutkimuslaitos** (Finnish Forest Research Institute))

This project is concerned by how changes in the water cycle will affect forests. Many of the climate change effects on forests are dependent on how soils are able to provide water to plants. As a consequence, the project aims to improve knowledge of how forest growth could change in future by compiling existing data and models. Information compiled by the project will establish a better basis for regional forest management planning in the context of climate change.

- **MACEB** (Ilmatieteen laitos)

The project aims to demonstrate, using the best available tools, an innovative approach to mitigating warming of the Arctic climate by reducing black carbon (BC) emissions at mid latitudes. It will also identify knowledge gaps and uncertainties in how BC emissions can be linked to radiative forcing in Arctic areas using existing modelling and measurement tools.

- **INSULATE** (Terveyden ja hyvinvoinnin laitos (National institute for health and welfare))

The project will focus on the assessment of national programmes to improve the energy performance of the existing housing stock, such as government-supported improvements in thermal insulation. It will develop a common protocol for assessing the impacts of a building's energy performance on indoor environmental quality and health and establish an integrated approach for the assessment of environmental and health information.

- **ABSOILS** (Ramboll Finland Oy)

The project aims to demonstrate that it is possible to convert discarded soil into valuable secondary materials with civil-engineering applications. It will determine the best possible solutions for the stabilisation of discarded soils, using regionally sourced commercial and by-product additives (such as fly ash), with the ultimate goal of establishing the optimum mixing of soil and stabilisation materials for different applications.

- **REDUST** (City of Helsinki)

The project aims to find best winter practices in the fields of traction control, dust suppression and street cleaning, and accelerate their implementation in order to reduce levels of respirable street dust (PM10) in urban areas. The project will demonstrate the emissions reduction potential and air quality benefits of these best practices.

LIFE+ Nature (1 project – 2 million)

- **Return of rural wetlands** (Metsähallitus)

The main objective is to create a new framework and give a good start to a future nationwide programme for wildlife habitat conservation, restoration and recreation that will operate on a local level. The project has two distinct parts, demonstrative and innovative, which both have the objective of halting the loss of biodiversity in the Finnish wetlands outside the Natura 2000 network and other protection programmes.

GERMANY - 9 projects (30 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (1 project - 4.4 million)

- **MY FAVOURITE RIVER** (Bundesrepublik Deutschland, vertreten durch Wasser- und Schifffahrtsdirektion Südwest, vertreten durch Wasser- und Schifffahrtsamt Stuttgart)

The project plans to co-ordinate concurrent investment plans at municipal, regional and national level in order to achieve unified, environmentally sustainable and durable river management. It thus aims to ensure appropriate and sustainable maintenance and development of the river Neckar as an important waterway.

LIFE+ Information and Communication (1 project – 0.8 million)

- **Pro-Klima Autoklimaanlage** (Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.)

The project will campaign to reduce environmental pollution caused by vehicle air conditioning systems. Firstly, it will focus on raising awareness about enhancing current vehicle air conditioning systems, so that energy consumption and resulting emissions will be significantly reduced. At the same time, it will campaign for the introduction of natural refrigerants to be brought forward.

LIFE+ Nature (7 projects – 24.7 million)

- **Rheinauen bei Rastatt** (Regierungspräsidium Karlsruhe)

The project is targeting a substantial improvement of wetland ecosystems along a section of the river Rhine (west of Rastatt). As one of the most important ecological corridors in Central Europe, the area plays an important role in goals of a coherent Natura 2000 network: the project should substantially aid the restoration of many typical wetland habitats and also help to improve the conservation status of several plant and animal species listed in the Habitats Directive.

- **Steigerwaldrand Iphofen** (Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Gesundheit)

The project's main aim is to conserve the Steigerwald hills Natura 2000 site near Iphofen. In addition, the project area will be developed as a demonstration area for traditionally-managed landscapes and for coppiced woodland in Germany and Central Europe.

- **Wald – Wasser – Wildnis** (Landesbetrieb Wald und Holz NRW)

The project's overall goals are to develop and target the conservation of the four endangered forest habitat types in six Natura 2000 sites in the Eifel National Park, which encompasses the counties of Aachen, Düren and Euskirchen in North Rhine-Westphalia.

- **Bergmähwiesen Winterberg** (Naturschutzzentrum –Biologische Station – Hochsauerlandkreis e.V.)

The project aims to restore, ecologically improve and sustainably protect nationally significant clusters of mountain hay meadow as high-risk plant communities and as a refuge for endangered montane species and habitats. The planned project area comprises the Natura 2000 sites of "Bergwiesen bei Winterberg" and "Oberes Orketal" with the most important remnants of montane grasslands on a total of 538 ha.

- **Alosa alosa** (Landesanstalt für Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz in Nordrhein-Westfalen)

The key objective of the project is the re-introduction of Allis shad to the Rhine watershed. In a unique European approach, the project is combining the conservation of the largest remaining Allis shad population in Europe in the Gironde watershed in France with the re-introduction of Allis shad to the Rhine watershed in Germany.

- **Hang- und Hoochmoore** (Stiftung Natur und Umwelt Rheinland-Pfalz)

The project aims to restore and protect important bog habitats in the Hunsrück and Eifel area. The main objective of this project is to stop the decline of plant communities and species associated with bogs. In addition, the project will help stop emissions and reactivate the bonding of carbon dioxide from bog habitats.

- **LIFE-Aurinia** (Stiftung Naturschutz Schleswig-Holstein)

The overall objective of the LIFE-Aurinia project is to reactivate habitats of *the marsh fritillary butterfly* in the last two known sites of the species (Nordoe and Jardelunder moor). At similar good sites (e.g. the military training field Lütjenholm and Geltinger Birk) the project will try to improve the necessary habitats of *the target species*: mat grasslands, wet grasslands, heathlands and dry grasslands.

GREECE - 16 projects (25.8 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (10 projects - 18.2 million)

- **PROTEAS** (Technical University of Crete)

The main objective of the project is to develop a protocol of good practices in an essential health, safety, and environmental (HSE) management system. The project's ultimate goal is to assist implementation of the REACH regulation and reduce risks from emissions or accidental releases of hazardous substances.

- **WASTE-C-CONTROL** (Environmental Planning, Engineering and Management (EPEM) S.A.)

The WASTE-C-CONTROL project aims to enable reduced GHG emissions by developing a software tool that will assess, monitor, control and report on the emissions resulting from the entire life cycle of solid-waste management activities. It will assess different waste-management options that will enable the project to identify procedures and practical tools within Local Action Plans (LAPs) that would reduce GHG emissions from waste-management activities at local level.

- **Adapt2Change** (Technological Education Institute (TEI) of Larissa)

The overall objective of the project is to demonstrate adaptation of agricultural production to climate change and limited water supply. Specifically, it aims to minimise agricultural water use by introducing a water-recycling method in a closed, fully automated, hydroponic greenhouse system.

- **CARBONTOUR** (Region of the North Aegean)

The CARBONTOUR project aims to develop an integrated methodology to measure CO₂ equivalent emissions from tourism accommodation facilities and to strategically plan mitigation measures. The main output of the project will be a user-friendly software tool.

- **eSYMBIOSIS** (Viotia Prefecture)

The eSYMBIOSIS project's general objective is *to produce a web-based platform for Industrial Symbiosis (IS), enabling communication between potential partners and offering automated matching of partners according to economic and environmental objectives and thus facilitating the implementation of IS as an environmental policy at all levels.*

- **SAGE10** (Benaki Phytopathological Institute)

The SAGE10 project seeks to promote the long-term sustainability of the agro-ecosystem and economy. The project will develop an innovative Impact Assessment Procedure (IAP) for objectively evaluating the potential environment consequences of proposed agricultural practices. The IAP should be a tool for prioritising activities and achieving ISO14001/EMAS accreditation on farms.

- **ROADTIRE** (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)

The objective of the ROADTIRE project is to demonstrate an innovative use for recycled vulcanised rubber from end-of-life (EOL) tyres in road construction. This ultimately aims to demonstrate a market for EOL-tyres in civil engineering and thus reduce the amount of collected EOL-tyres being stockpiled or sent for uses with a higher carbon footprint.

- **ENERGY-WASTE** (Epana S.A.)

The project will develop and implement a demonstration logistics management scheme to exploit the thermal content of non-recyclable urban waste from EPANA's recycling factory. It will do this by demonstrating an advanced gasification concept for the energy exploitation of the non-recyclable stream of a modern recycling factory, thus showing how the approach can reduce the overall GHG emissions from urban waste streams.

- **ACEPT-AIR** (N.C.S.R. "Demokritos")

The objective of this project is to resolve the impact of major and minor sources of particulate matter (PM) that lead to concentrations exceeding EU limit values. A database will be developed that contains information on the physico-chemical characteristics of atmospheric particulate matter, the anthropogenic emission source strength, and the naturally emitted primary and secondary materials originating from local and/or distant sources. A methodology will be developed to produce a versatile and long-term decision-making tool for policymakers.

- **SOL-BRINE** (Municipality of Tinos)

The project promotes the concept of Zero Discharge Seawater Desalination and aims to develop an advanced solar-driven brine treatment system, promoting the use of renewable energy sources in the reject effluent (brine) treatment processes whilst eliminating brine disposal. The brine treatment system, which is in line with the Zero Liquid Discharge concept and the objectives of the Water Framework Directive, will thereby significantly contribute to the protection of inland surface waters, coastal waters and groundwater.

LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity (4 projects – 5.5 million)

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects)

- **ARCTOS/KASTORIA** (Prefecture of Kastoria)

The project aims to improve the conservation status of the brown bear in terms of habitat condition and population by addressing major threats relating to road infrastructure, traffic and human-caused mortality.

- **ACCOLAGOONS** (Prefectural Authority of Thessaloniki)

The objectives of the project are to restore the hydrological and ecological status of the Epanomi lagoon in order to enhance the conservation status of priority habitats of coastal lagoons and posidonia beds as well as the priority species they host, such as *Numerius tenuirostris* and *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*.

LIFE+ Biodiversity (2 projects)

- **SKYROSBIODIVERSITY**

The objective of this LIFE Biodiversity project is to establish integrated planning methods and management capable of enhancing biodiversity whilst remaining compatible with sustainable economic and social development. The actions will be based on the development of a Biodiversity Action Plan focusing on important habitats and species on the island of Skyros.

- **VERENIKE** (National Agricultural Research Foundation/ Forest Research Institute)

The aim of the project is to enhance biodiversity during the restoration of fire-disturbed ecosystems by introducing a new technology, based on pre-cultivation in mini-plugs, to be tested with a wide range of species. The seedlings produced using the new technology will be transplanted to three study areas in Central Macedonia, where their growth will be monitored and evaluated.

LIFE+ Information and Communication (2 projects – 2 million)

- **PROM.SUS.FIS.PR.PRESPA** (Society for the Protection of Prespa)

An awareness campaign will target local inhabitants and stakeholders, public authorities and the general public: The overall objectives are to promote the conservation of threatened endemic and rare fish of the area and to implement sustainable fishery practices. The project will seek to inform local people, professional and recreational fishermen of the importance of sustainable fishery practices across the Prespa basin and of the regulations to maintain the lakes' native fish populations.

- **Thalassa** (MOM/Hellenic Society for the Study & Protection of the Monk Seal)

The project's objective is to mitigate the imminent danger, caused by human-related threats, to the long-term term viability of all rare, endangered and important marine mammals inhabiting Greek waters. In order to achieve this, the project aims to raise the awareness of selected target audiences about marine mammals in Greece, the importance of these species for marine ecosystems, the imminent threats they face, and the conservation actions necessary to ensure their long-term viability.

HUNGARY - 1 project (4 million)

LIFE+ Nature

- **Falco cherrug B-H-R-S** (Bükk National Park Directorate)

This LIFE Nature project aims to stabilise and further strengthen the European core populations of saker falcon (*Falco cherrug*) by implementing best practice *F. cherrug* conservation actions in Bulgaria and Romania.

IRELAND - 2 projects (4.1 million)

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects – 4.1 million)

- **BLACKWATER SAMOK** (Integrated Resource Development)

The main purpose of the project is to bring about a sustained enhancement of the Upper Blackwater SAC by targeting the species of Freshwater pearl mussel, Atlantic salmon, European otter and kingfisher. More specifically this will be achieved by carrying out actions aimed at restoring the quality of the river bed and riparian zone.

- **DBPRBRI** (Coillte Teoranta - The Irish Forestry Board)

The primary objective of this LIFE Nature project is to help restore wetland, peat-forming conditions on Ireland's raised bogs by continuing the process of removing plantation forests. This project builds upon the work carried out under Coillte's previous LIFE-funded project "Restoring Raised Bog in Ireland", which was completed in December 2008.

ITALY - 56 projects (94.2 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (40 projects – 64.4 million)

- **WIZ** (ACQUE S.P.A)

The overall goal of the WaterIze 'WIZ' spatial planning project is to integrate the protection and sustainable management of water in urban planning processes and local policy areas. The project aims to incorporate long term analysis of drinking water management in urban spatial planning by creating a platform for local authorities to be involved in decision-making processes.

- **P.R.I.M.E.** (Municipality of Mola di Bari)

The project aims to develop the potential reuse of Neptune grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) residues by developing an Integrated Management System capable of combining environmental protection with waste biomass management and the reuse of material for agriculture.

- **I.MO.S.M.I.D.** (Provincia di Reggio Emilia)

The project aims to identify and define an innovative integrated governance model inspired by criteria for sustainable mobility. The idea is to try to satisfy the growing demand of supplementary Local Public Transport (LPT) services and to reduce the use of private vehicles. The project will be to bring together transport and energy matters with a system capable of exploiting energy produced from renewable sources within a trial industrial district.

- **SUMFLOWER** (Università degli studi di Genova - Giardini Botanici Hanbury)

The project's aim is to create a sustainable management system for floriculture and ornamental horticulture. It will reduce the main environmental impacts of floricultural activities by improving efficiency, while also respecting economic viability. SMEs operating in the floriculture and ornamental horticulture sectors will be assisted in the application of best available techniques, innovative technologies and practices.

- **WASTE-LESS in CHIANTI** (Provincia di Firenze)

The project aims to contribute to European and national policies on waste prevention and sustainable consumption through the implementation and monitoring of an integrated waste prevention and reduction programme for Chianti in Florence. By selecting an internationally known district, the aim is to provide Member States with a model for the establishment of their own waste prevention programmes by December 2013 (as required by the EU Waste Framework Directive).

- **N.O.W.A.S.T.E.** (I.R.S.S.A.T. (Istituto di Ricerca, Sviluppo e Sperimentazione sull'Ambiente ed il Territorio))

The overall objectives of the project are to develop and test, in small urban areas, an innovative system for the treatment and composting of domestic organic waste. Using environmentally-friendly materials, the system will target the elimination of toxic emissions and also promote energy savings.

- **GAIA** (Comune di Bologna)

The project aims to tackle two environmental problems through an integrated policy: climate change (both mitigation and adaptation effects of urban forestation) and air quality (the depuration potential of plants). The project foresees the dissemination of public-private partnership tools, developed within the framework of corporate social responsibility (CSR) experiences, and the networking of this know how through the diffusion of specific guidelines.

- **AQUA** (ARPA EMILIA ROMAGNA)

This project seeks to demonstrate that the negative impact of industrial production, specifically of agro-industry, on water quality and availability can be significantly reduced through voluntary business actions. The idea is to introduce a 'cradle-to-cradle' (or regenerative) approach to industrial water management and to adopt private-public partnerships as the means to achieve this.

- **ManFor C.BD.** (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche)

The project aims to test and verify in the field the effectiveness of different forest management options in meeting multiple objectives (including production, protection and biodiversity). It will address these issues in different test areas, from production to protected forests, including Natura 2000 sites and priority habitats and species.

- **EXPAH** (Azienda Sanitaria Locale Roma E)

The EXPAH project will address the environmental and health problems caused by the emission, dispersion and transformation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) compounds. Its overall goal is to identify and to quantify exposure among children and elderly people to PAH content in particulate matter in a highly urbanised area (i.e. the city of Rome) and to assess the impact on human health, in order to support environmental policy and regulation in this field.

- **P.Pro.SPO.T.** (Comunità Montana Colline Metallifere)

This project aims to introduce in Italy, particularly in Tuscany, the 'single tree silviculture' technique applied to the management and conservation of sporadic tree species. Through the valorisation of these species, the beneficiary hopes to increase the biodiversity, the ecological stability and the whole value of the forest.

- **OPERA** (Agenzia Prevenzione Ambiente Emilia-Romagna)

The main goal of the 'OPERA' project is to develop a methodology and guidelines to support local authority planning for regional policies supporting national and European actions for compliance with air quality standards. The actions are also designed to take into account possible synergies with measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

- **Bio.Lea.R.** (Gestione Ambientale Integrata dell'Astigiano SpA)

The aim of this project is to demonstrate the performance of a landfill for lesser reactive, biologically treated waste (pre-treated organic wastes) in comparison with a conventional landfill. It aims to control moisture levels of pre-treated organic wastes using innovative and monitored liquid injection, in order to shorten and temporarily concentrate biogas production.

- **NADIA** (Provincia di Genova)

The project's main aim is to demonstrate the technical and economical feasibility and effectiveness of best practices for reducing road traffic noise levels (and in some cases, also reducing CO₂ emissions and energy use). This would be achieved by the integration of noise mapping and planning activities, the use of innovative techniques (such as noise barriers, windows and asphaltting of road surfaces), traffic management and education.

- **ETA-BETA** (Agenzia per la Promozione e lo Sviluppo Sostenibile dell'Area Metropolitana di Milano S.p.A.)

The project's main aim is to quantify the environmental impact of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It will do this by carrying out initiatives that will improve the capacity of SMEs to develop and use environmental technologies whilst strengthening and promoting the creation and development of 'ecologically equipped productive areas' (EEPAs).

- **EFRUD** (Consorzio per la ricerca e lo sviluppo di tecnologie per il trasporto innovativo)

The main goal of the project is to reduce environmental damage caused by the transportation of refrigerated, perishable goods within urban areas. The project will reduce emissions and noise, and will improve the energy efficiency of the logistical chain, whilst maintaining the standard of perishable goods.

- **EnerGeo** (Ceramiche Gardenia Orchidea S.p.A) prima di ELBA

The project's main objective is to drastically reduce CO₂ emissions and energy use in the manufacture of ceramic tiles, by using two new geopolymers: Geopolfloor-base and Geopolfloor-foam. The project will demonstrate the feasibility, at industrial scale, of the use of these materials for the production of floor tiles.

- **ELBA** (Autorità Portuale di Piombino)

The project will focus on the planning, implementation and demonstration of an advanced eco-sustainable integrated mobility scheme for people and goods on the island of Elba, which lies just off the Italian mainland close to Piombino.

- **SUN EAGLE** (Seconda Università Degli Studi di Napoli)

The project aims to promote a localised, participatory approach to policy assessment and implementation in relation to the reduction of emissions and the increasing of carbon dioxide absorption capacity. This will be done through experimentation with local governance models, with particular reference to the management of forests and mountains.

- **GREEN INNOVATION** (Politecnico di Milano)

The goal of this project is to demonstrate that it is possible to manufacture magnesium-based larger scale, complex-shape structural elements that can be used in place of classic automotive parts. Use of such components will result in a substantial weight reduction by directly substituting heavier steel or cast iron components, which make up on average some 64% of the weight of a car.

- **ET IDEA** (NIER Ingegneria SpA)

The ET IDEA project aims to develop and test the typical reference years (TRYs) concept as an innovative tool for the reconstruction, standardisation and analysis of meteorological data for the whole of Italy. It will produce a software package containing TRYs for 1 500-2 000 locations across Italy. The software will facilitate meteorological-data standardisation and analysis for the whole territory.

- **E.N.A.** (Provincia di Pesaro e Urbino)

The main objective of the project is to improve the environmental performance of SMEs in the naval sector of the Marche Region. To this end, and in line with Directive 2005/32/EC on eco-design requirements for energy-using products, practices in carbon footprint and environmental management systems in the nautical industry will be enforced by informing more than 300 companies.

- **PALM** (Studio Galli Ingegneria (SGI) SpA)

The objective of the PALM project is to develop a decision support system to allow water companies to identify the optimum balance between reducing water leaks and being economically sustainable. Ultimately, the aim is to enable water companies to reduce water loss by 50% and the related environmental impacts by up to 60%.

- **T.A.SM.A.C** (Regione Marche Public Transport Department)

The project will reduce the environmental impact (acoustic and air pollution) of car traffic resulting from the flow of tourists into urban centres; increase the availability, 'liveability' and accessibility of the urban centre for tourists and residents; and define an urban mobility governance model (T.A.SM.A.C. model) linked to tourist flows.

- **SEDI.PORT.SIL** (MED INGEGNERIA S.r.l.)

The SEDI.PORT.SIL project aims to demonstrate an integrated approach to the sustainable management of sediment dredged from ports. The project intends to demonstrate the efficiency of consolidated treatment technologies coupled with innovative techniques for recycling and exploiting port dredged sediment as a resource rather than just a dangerous waste.

- **Ultra Crash Treatment** (Metallurgica Abruzzese S.p.a.)

The main objective of the project is to minimise all environmental problems related to hot galvanising processes of steel wire rods. This will be achieved by demonstrating the suitability of replacing a hot galvanising process with a new technology based on cold spray galvanising of dusts.

- **MDPATC** (Trafileria e Zincheria Cavatorta S.p.A.)

This project intends to demonstrate technological approaches that reduce the environmental footprint of wire rod products. Physical treatments will replace chemical processes and raw material recycling opportunities will be improved during the manufacture of high performance metal wire products, such as nails, screws and arc-welded nets.

- **Sludge's Wealth** (COOMI SOC.COOP.)

The objective of this project is to demonstrate the cost effectiveness of a new waste treatment plant for offshore units. This is based on a hybrid microwave and hot air heating technology capable of converting biological sludge into combustible pellets. Microwaves are expected to help sanitise the end product, which can then be used as incinerator fuel.

- **ECO-CLUSTER** (Parco Nazionale Appennino Tosco-Emiliano)

The main objective of the ECO-CLUSTER project is to improve the environmental footprint of SMEs operating in the national park area. A parallel purpose aims to help improve the competitiveness of local businesses. Such dual goals will be achieved by preparing and implementing an 'Action Plan for the Environmental Compliance Assistance Programme for SMEs'.

- **LAIKA** (Comune di Milano)

The project aims to demonstrate that local authorities are able to adopt effective harmonised accounting, planning and reporting methods for projects dedicated to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Specific goals are to determine a GHG baseline inventory and define a GHG emission target at municipal level in the project area and define actions and measures for target achievements at local level.

- **AQUA** (Centro Ricerche Produzioni Animali CRPA)

This project will reduce water pollution from nutrients at river basin scale by optimising the use of nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) from livestock farms, thus reducing nutrient losses to water. This will be achieved by reducing nitrogen in manure by lowering N inputs in feedstuffs and by improving the efficiency of fertilisation to maximise the effectiveness of nutrients.

- **GAS-OFF** (Azienda Sperimentale Vittorio Tadini)

The project aims to develop an integrated strategic approach for mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from dairy farms. This will be achieved by monitoring 50 dairy farms in the province of Lodi. Information gathered during the project will assist researchers, farm planners, and policymakers to develop and maintain sustainable farming systems.

- **H2POWER** (Municipality of Perugia)

This project proposes a new approach to the use of energies for mobility. By introducing elements to reduce the pollutant impacts of traditional fuels, the general objective is to reduce CO₂ emissions from traditional internal combustion engines. The methodology will involve turning a methane-fuelled city bus into one fuelled by hydrogen/methane.

LIFE Nature and Biodiversity (15 projects – 28.8 million)

LIFE+ Nature (13 projects)

- **ECO-RICE** (Provincia di Vercelli - Settore Tutela Ambientale)

The main objectives of this project involve: safeguarding and improving key forest sites and riverine ecological corridors in the target area; identifying new fields for the development of an ecological network; implementing forest management models aimed at improving nesting conditions for herons; and piloting an integrated territorial land management approach (at province scale) that brings together all relevant public and private sector stakeholders.

- **SICALECONS** (Regione Siciliana - Assessorato Agricoltura e Foreste)

The main aim of this project is to improve the conservation status of the endemic Sicilian subspecies of the rock partridge. Actions will target Nature 2000 areas identified as Special Protection Areas (SPA) and involve risk reduction works to tackle each of the identified threats.

- **ARCTOS** (Ente Autonomo Parco Nazionale Abruzzo, Lazio e Molise)

The project seeks to make livestock husbandry practices and regulations more compatible with the needs of bears. The goal is to increase the number of farms in the bear's range adopting effective prevention measures and compatible husbandry techniques by at least 30%.

- **POSEIDONE** (Regione Lazio – Direzione Ambiente e Cooperazione tra I Popoli)

The principal objective of this project is to safeguard and to restore some marine Natura 2000 sites of particular importance to the conservation of the priority habitat 'Posidonia beds in the Tyrrhenian Sea'.

- **COORNATA** (Ente Parco Nazionale della Majella)

The overall aim of the project is the long-term conservation of the Apennine chamois along the Central Apennines. The project aims to establish five geographically isolated colonies of Apennine chamois in five parks, namely the Abruzzo, Lazio e Molise National Park, the Majella National Park, the Gran Sasso and Monti della Laga National Park, the Monti Sibillini National Park and the Sirente Velino Regional Park.

- **ARION** (Università degli Studi di Genova)

The main objective of the project is the improvement of the conservation status of *the bottlenose dolphin in the MPA of Portofino*. To this aim the decline in individuals will be prevented by an acoustic monitoring system detecting and tracking the bottlenose dolphins. A network of hydrophones, communicating with an on-shore computer centre, will be installed on the buoys of the Portofino MPA to identify and follow dolphins in real time.

- **LIFE+ FAGGETE DEL TABURNO** (Provincia di Benevento)

The general objective of this project is to improve the conservation status of species and habitats in the Natura 2000 sites of the Taburno Massif, in particular the beech habitats with *Fagus sylvatica*, *Ilex aquifolium* and *Taxus baccata* with natural regeneration.

- **SORBA** (Provincia di Vicenza)

The main aim of this LIFE Nature project is to restore freshwater habitats in the former fish-farming areas of the Bosco Dueville Natura 2000 sites. Structural works will be undertaken to facilitate more natural habitat conditions and planting of local vegetation will promote the re-colonisation of amphibians (*Rana latastei*) and bird species (*Alcedo atthis*, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, *Egretta garzetta* and *Circus aeruginosus*).

- **Re.S.C.We.** (Municipality of San Benedetto del Tronto ("Sentina" Regional Natural Reserve))

The overall objective of this project is to restore coastal lagoons to their original condition and to widen the waste dune formations along the coastal area of the Sentina nature reserve.

- **Natura 2000 sites in the River Po delta** (Consorzio del Parco Regionale del Delta del Po dell'Emilia-Romagna)

This project is targeting the conservation of habitats and species in the Natura 2000 sites of the River Po delta. It aims to develop joint conservation actions between multiple public and private owners to achieve this result.

- **RICOPRI** (Province of Rome)

The main objective of this project is the long term conservation of two priority grasslands habitats that *depend on* good agro-pastoral management practices. An additional objective is the conservation of the butterfly species associated with these habitats, in particular, *Eriogaster catax* and *Melanargia arge*.

- **LIFE+ BOSCO INCORONATA** (Comune di Foggia)

The general project objectives are to conserve the rare or endangered habitats of the Bosco dell'Incoronata regional natural park and to increase the biodiversity of the Valle del Cervaro - Bosco Incoronata site of Community importance (SCI) within the Natura 2000 network.

- **ZONE UMIDE SIPONTINE** (Regione Puglia - Assessorato all'Ecologia)

The Zone Umide Sipontine project aims to restore the Wetlands of Capitanata Natura 2000 site. Specifically, it aims to improve the conservation status of priority wetland, coastal-dune, coastal-lagoon and Mediterranean salt-steppe habitats contained within the site, and provide associated benefits for bird species.

LIFE+Biodiveristy (2 projects)

- **EC-SQUARE** (Regione Lombardia)

The main objective of this project is to control and eradicate threats caused by grey squirrels in different socio-ecological contexts. The project actions will be located in three different regions (Lombardy, Piedmont and Liguria) in northern Italy.

- **PP-ICON (ALMA MATER STUDIORUM Università)**

The main objectives of this LIFE Biodiversity project are to ensure the survival of an isolated population of the rare plant species burning-bush (*Dictamnus albus*) and to restore the community of *Dictamnus albus* natural pollinators in a Bologna province regional park.

LIFE+ Information and Communication (1 project - 1 million)

- **FISH SCALE** (Costa Edutainment S.P.A. (Acquario di Genova))

The tendency of commercial fishermen to discard up to 60% of their catch as 'by-catch', because market demand is concentrated on a relatively small number of fish species, is both a serious threat to biodiversity and a cause of fish-stock depletion. This project intends to increase consumer knowledge and appreciation of neglected edible species (mainly local). This will activate a virtuous cycle by increasing demand for the species and their commercial value, thereby helping to reduce fish discards and preserve marine biodiversity.

LATVIA - 4 projects (8.3 million)

LIFE+ Nature (4 projects – 8.3 million)

- **DVIETE** (Latvian Fund for Nature)

The main aim of the project is to improve the conservation status of the corncrake (*Crex crex*) in Latvia and to restore breeding habitats for the species in a degraded and abandoned section of the Dviete river floodplain.

- **MARMONI** (Baltic Environmental Forum – Latvia)

The project aims to develop concepts for assessing the conservation status of marine biodiversity (including species and habitats) – examining the impacts of various human activities, as well as the impacts of nature conservation policy from a socio-economic perspective. Focusing on the Baltic Sea territorial waters and the EEZ (Exclusive Economic Zone) of Estonia, Latvia, Finland and Sweden, the aim is to apply a regional approach for future marine biodiversity monitoring and international co-operation when assessing marine biodiversity in the Baltic Sea.

- **Life-HerpetoLatvia** (Municipality of the Daugavpils City)

The project's main aim is to facilitate the enlargement of populations of *Emys orbicularis*, *Coronella austriaca* and *Bombina bombina*, and to ensure their long-term survival in Latvia, by implementing a combination of 'in-situ' and 'ex-situ' actions and by improving their legal protection.

- **EREMITA MEADOWS** (Daugavpils University)

The project's goals are to develop a comprehensive ecological management system for Fennoscandian wooded meadows and rare species dependent on old-grown trees and undisturbed forest habitats; and to ensure the conservation of two EU priority beetle species: *Osmoderma eremita* and *Phryganophilus ruficollis*.

LITHUANIA - 4 projects (5.6 million)

LIFE+ Nature (4 projects – 5.6 million)

- **Baltic Aquatic Warbler** (Viešoji istaiga Baltijos aplinkos forumas)

The main project objective is to ensure the favourable conservation status of the aquatic warbler (*Acrocephalus paludicola*), which breeds in wet meadows and open fens dominated by sedge grasses.

- **DENOFLIT** (Klaipeda University)

The project aims to conduct inventories of marine species and habitats in the offshore waters of the Lithuanian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and designate Natura 2000 areas selected during site evaluation.

- **Eagles in the forest** (Viešoji istaiga Gamtosaugos projektu vystymo fondas)

The main goal of the project is to protect the nesting sites of at least 10% of the national lesser spotted eagle's population – that is around 2.5% of EU population (more than 200 pairs) – from direct destruction and indirect damage caused by timber harvesting.

- **ECONAF** (Lithuanian Fund for Nature)

The overall aim of the project is to create an ecological network in the south of Lithuania by ensuring the favourable conservation status of threatened populations of selected Habitats Directive species and simultaneously enhancing the ecological value of the target area.

THE NETHERLANDS - 6 projects (37.2 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (4 projects – 29 million)

- **QSIDE** (Nederlandse Organisatie voor Toegepast Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek TNO)

The QSIDE project aims to demonstrate a new methodology for assessing traffic noise in cities. The project will use a new engineering method to measure noise levels at quiet facades and in quiet areas and to produce detailed traffic-noise mapping of cities.

- **ADIOS** (Twee "R" Recyclinggroep B.V.)

The Adios project will construct a pilot plant with a tunnel oven to demonstrate a prototype thermal treatment process for denaturing asbestos on a large scale. The goal is to show that there is a better environmental and economic alternative to incinerating AFC waste or depositing it in landfill sites.

- **BLUETEC** (Bluewater Energy Services B.V.)

The BLUETEC project aims to demonstrate the technical feasibility and cost effectiveness of a full-scale 1 MW tidal-energy installation. It thus hopes to demonstrate the technology's potential to significantly reduce CO₂ emissions and improve Europe's competitiveness in exporting innovative and renewable technologies.

- **SEWEEEX** (Municipality of Arnhem)

The main objective of the project is to demonstrate a new SEWage Energy EXchange system (SEWEEEX) to transfer heat from the sewage system to urban buildings. It expects to reduce CO₂ emissions, as well as emissions of fine dust or nitrogen oxides (NO_x), by 78% in comparison with the use of fossil fuels and to show financial benefits in comparison with other energy sources.

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects – 8.2 million)

- **Revitalising Noordduinen** (Stichting Landschap Noord-Holland)

The project will take place in the Natura 2000 site, Duinen Den Helder Callantsoog. This is one of the few Natura 2000 sites in the Netherlands where fixed coastal dunes (grey dunes) are still present. The aim of the project is to revitalise this part of the Noordduinen by demolishing and removing the hardened surfaces and buildings left behind by the military, in order to recreate the grey dunes habitat.

- **Dutch dune revival** (Vereniging Natuurmonumenten)

The main aim of this project is to enlarge and restore habitats and increase the presence of rare and characteristic species. This will be achieved by i) recovering and enlarging the area of grey dunes, white dunes and humid dune slacks at Voornes Duin; ii) recovering and enlarging the area of grey dunes and white dunes at Duinen Goeree and Kwade Hoek; and iii) recovering and enlarging the area of grey dunes, white dunes, dune forest and dunes with *Hippophaë rhamnoides* and humid dune slacks at Kennemerland-Zuid.

POLAND - 10 projects (25.3 million)

LIFE+ Information and Communication (2 projects – 3.3 million)

- FORESTFIRE II (Dyrekcja Generalna Lasów Państwowych)

This project aims to reduce risk of forest fires caused by people. Its general goal is to raise awareness of steps to prevent/avoid forest fires among rural residents and people using forests for recreational purposes. This is the second phase of a three-part campaign which aims to cover the entire country.

- DOKLIP (Fundacja Instytut na rzecz Ekorozwoju)

The main goal of the project is to raise awareness of climate change among leaders at county level and to stimulate initiatives in support of practical local measures to protect the climate and adapt to any changes.

LIFE+ Nature (8 projects – 22 million)

- Wislawarszawska.pl (Miasto Stołeczne Warszawa)

The general project objective is to restore the breeding colonies of waders, gulls and terns in the Middle Vistula Valley Natura 2000 network site (SPA), especially those within the Warsaw borders.

- Ochrona bociana białego (Regionalna Dyrekcja Ochrony Środowiska w Olsztynie)

The main objective of this project is to reduce stork mortality risks associated with power-line collisions. Other stork support actions will include renovating nest sites and improving habitat conditions for the species' main amphibian food sources. The latter will be achieved by increasing the water retention capacity of habitat areas and by raising groundwater levels.

- Bagna są Dobre! (Towarzystwo Ochrony Przyrody Ptaki Polskie)

This LIFE Nature project's main aim is to restore degraded habitats located within the borders of the Warta Mouth National Park. Interventions will target breeding, feeding and resting grounds for birds in order to improve conditions for species that rely on open meadows and wetland habitats during migration and wintering.

- Renaturyzacja (Biebrzański Park Narodowy)

The main goal of this project is to *improve* the conservation status of habitats and species at the Ostoja Biebrzańska and Dolina Biebrzy Natura 2000 network sites. Works extending over 9 000 ha will target *hydrogenic habitats and restore appropriate water flow conditions in the vicinity of key areas, such as around the Rudzki canal, the Elk river, the Jegrznia river, and the Woźnawiejski canal.*

- Pustynia Błędowska (Gmina Klucze)

The main objective of this project is to secure a favourable conservation status for the largest Polish complex of xeric sand calcareous grasslands and inland dunes. Habitat restoration work will focus on the Pustynia Błędowska Natura 2000 site with the aim of restoring habitats here to the conditions they would have been in half a century ago.

- Biomass use for Aquatic W (Ogólnopolskie Towarzystwo Ochrony Ptaków)

The aim of this project is to link the production of biomass as a renewable energy source, with the large-scale mechanised management of aquatic warbler habitats. The project seeks to demonstrate that conservation management of this habitat can also be economically viable.

- **Polskie Ostoje Ptaków** (Zakład Badania Ssaków Polskiej Akademii Nauk)

The overall project aim is to implement and improve protection measures for a number of important European wetland bird species that breed in SPAs within the five Polish national parks. This will be achieved by improving habitat conditions in order to increase the breeding success of the targeted wetland bird species and, at the same time, curbing pressures from invasive alien predatory species, particularly the American mink (*Mustela vison*) and the common raccoon (*Procyon lotor*).

- **Restytucja i utrzymanie siedlisk legowych ptaków wodnych i błotnych (Park Narodowy "Ujście Warty")**

The general objective of this LIFE Nature project is to restore and maintain habitats for breeding waterfowl birds that nest in meadow areas of the Warta Mouth National Park. Target species include the corncrake, gulls, terns, plovers and some ducks. Habitat work will safeguard appropriate plant succession processes and focus on permanently removing willow bushes. A two year programme of intensive grazing will be introduced in order to inhibit willow regeneration. This will be followed by the reintroduction of pasture on the meadows.

PORTUGAL - 8 projects (7.6 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (1 project - 1 million)

- **Building-SPP** (Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia, I.P.)

The goal of the Building-SPP project is to mainstream sustainable public procurement (SPP) in Portugal and Greece by assisting public authorities in implementing a procurement strategy in line with their economic, social and environmental policies. It will also encourage co-operation among public procurers and promote greater market engagement among public procurers and suppliers.

LIFE+ Nature (4 projects – 5 million)

- MarPro (Universidade de Aveiro)

The MarPro project aims to successfully implement the NATURA 2000 network for the target cetacean and seabird species and their habitats throughout the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of mainland Portugal. It will reduce conflicts between fisheries and the target species in order to ensure compliance with the Habitats and Birds directives.

- Habitats Conservation (QUERCUS – ANCN)

This LIFE project's objective is to demonstrate a methodology for the **conservation of priority calcareous habitats** in the Natura 2000 site, Serra de Aire e Candeeiros. The project aims to restore 1 000 ha of calcareous habitats and, indirectly, ensure the protection of non-priority habitats for the conservation of threatened flora and fauna.

- Life Ilhéus do Porto Sant (Serviço do Parque Natural da Madeira)

The principal **objective of the** Life Ilhéus do Porto Sant **project** is to remove threats to the natural ecosystems of the Natura 2000 site of the Porto Santo islets and to improve the conservation status of species endemic to this region. The project will research the distribution, density and conservation status of endangered species of seabirds, terrestrial molluscs, plants and arthropods in the project area.

- **HIGRO (QUERCUS – ANCN)**

The Higro project aims to define a methodology for the restoration and active conservation of the temperate Atlantic wet heaths and *nardus* grasslands on silicious substrates in mountainous areas. It aims to achieve an ecologically interesting balance of the two habitats in the mosaic, whilst maintaining or increasing their total occupation area.

LIFE+ Information and Communication (2 projects – 1.6 million)

- **ECO-COMPATÍVEL** (Serviço do Parque Natural da Madeira)

The overall **long-term project objective** is to reinforce, through educational and awareness activities, the compatibility of regional and territorial development in the Madeira Archipelago (i.e. socio-economic activities such as tourism, fisheries and agriculture) with EU biodiversity conservation policy (namely the management of nature reserves, sites, habitats and species listed in the Habitats and Birds directives).

- **BIO+SINTRA** (Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A.)

The **overall project objective** is to develop a pilot experience for the Cultural Landscape of Sintra (transferable to other locations) aimed at changing people's attitudes – targeting a decrease in **carbon emissions** to mitigate climate change, safeguarding local habitats and species and reducing biodiversity loss.

ROMANIA - 2 projects (1 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (1 project - 0.7 million)

- **CLEANWATER** (National Administration "Apele Romane" - National Institute of Hydrology and Water Management)

The Cleanwater project aims to develop, at the river-basin scale, an integrated water management system to identify waters under threat and designate vulnerable zones. This aims to provide the authorities with a means of developing effective river-basin management policies for the Barlad river and to assess their impact.

LIFE+ Nature (1 project – 0.3 million)

- **STIPA** (Fundatia ADEPT Transilvania)

The STIPA project aims to improve the conservation status of two priority dry grassland habitats in the Sighisoara -Tarnava Mare Nature 2000 site. The beneficiaries will carry out field assessments of the conservation status of 10 000 ha of priority grassland habitats. With this information - and in consultation with farmers and other stakeholders - they will develop conservation action plans for the targeted habitats.

SLOVAKIA - 2 projects (2.9 million)

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects – 2.9 million)

- **AYBOTCON** (Slovak Ornithological Society / BirdLife Slovakia (Slovenská ornitologická spoločnosť / BirdLife Slovensko)

The core objective of this LIFE Nature project focuses on halting and reversing unfavourable populations trends for the bittern and ferruginous duck in eastern Slovakia, especially within the Medzibodrožie SPA which remains an important migration route and breeding area for these and other birds.

- **APOMARINA_SK** (Raptor Protection of Slovakia)

The main objective of this LIFE Nature project is to enhance the conservation status of the imperial eagle (*Aquila pomarina*) in Slovakia. This will be achieved by establishing favourable conditions in the short term for stabilising the Slovak breeding population of the species in the Carpathian eco-region.

SLOVENIA - 3 projects (9.8 million)

LIFE Nature and biodiversity (3 projects – 9.8 million)

LIFE+ Nature (2 projects)

- **WETMAN**

The overall goal of the project is to re-establish the favourable conservation status of eight targeted freshwater habitats and six wetland habitat SCIs. The project sites - Pohorje, Zelenci, Vrhe, Planik, Gornji kal and Mura-Petišovci (which are covered by six SCIs and two SPAs) - contain different types of wetlands, all of which have suffered from a lack of appropriate management.

- **MANSALT** (SOLINE Pridelava soli d.o.o.)

The overall objective of the project is to improve the conservation status of target bird, reptile and fish species and target habitat types in the Natura 2000 site, Sečovlje salina.

LIFE+ Biodiversity (1 project)

- **Life at Night** (Euromis d.o.o.)

The overall objective of the project is to improve the conservation status and biodiversity of nocturnal animals at selected areas by reducing the negative effects of artificial lighting used for the illumination of cultural heritage sites.

SPAIN - 36 projects (94.8 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (27 projects – 60.7 million)

- **CREAMAgua** (Comarca de los Monegros)

This project aims to introduce 'natural' ecosystem structures of wetlands and riverbank forests to reduce inorganic nutrients - nitrates and phosphates - and salts from agricultural runoff in the entire Monegros area.

- **CITROFUEL** (CITROTECNO)

This project seeks to develop a new process to improve and optimise the management and sustainable use of natural resources and waste from citrus fruit production. The project intends to construct and run an *industrial prototype for producing bio-ethanol from the biomass generated through citrus industrialisation by means of a new fermentation process.*

- **LASERFIRING** (Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas)

The project intends to develop a new method for manufacturing structural ceramics using laser technology in the firing phase, which should allow firing at lower temperatures. In the particular case of refractory bricks, the new process will reduce the firing temperature from 1 300°C to about 900°C, without compromising aesthetic or structural properties.

- **Soria CO2Cero** (Ayuntamiento de Soria)

The Soria CO2Cero project intends to improve the environment of Soria and to fight against climate change with a series of strategic and legislative measures. Central to the project will be the creation of a corridor crossing the city and connecting different elements of its environmental and cultural heritage. The CO2Cero corridor will become a reference of municipal good practice on environmental sustainability and ecological culture.

- **MIPOLARE** (Dirección General de Industria, Energía y Minas. Consejería de Universidades, Empresa e Investigación de la Región de Murcia)

The main objective of the MIPOLARE project is to evaluate, demonstrate and disseminate an alternative sustainable solution for the reclamation of mining sites based on soil amendment using two waste products - pig slurry and marble mud - and phytostabilisation.

- **ACCIÓN AGROCLIMÁTICA** (Fundación Global Nature)

The Accion Agroclimatica project aims to develop a tool for carrying out energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) audits on farms, and for identifying the most suitable crops and best practices for mitigation and adaptation to climate change. It seeks to provide a methodology that will be widely accepted by the EU-27 farming sector and applicable to most of the different agricultural systems.

- **The Green Deserts** (Transfer Latin Business Consultancy S.L.)

The project's main objective is to demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of new tree planting techniques in desertified, poor and/or rocky areas. Innovative 'waterbox' technology will be applied to restore the sponge function of degraded soils and reinforce soils' existing capacities for supporting plant life.

- **BIOENERGY & FIRE PREV.** (Ayuntamiento de Enguera)

The main objective of this project is to improve Enguera's capacity to protect its forest resource from fire and demonstrate new win-win rural employment opportunities that provide environmental benefits. New forest management tools and approaches will be developed to minimise fire risks. The potential of biomass as a source of renewable energy and rural employment will also be tested and evaluated.

- **VALUVOIL (CARTIF Foundation)**

The VALUVOIL project aims to demonstrate an environmentally and economically feasible method to improve the anaerobic digestion of residues and by-products generated from the processing of used vegetable oil.

- **MANEV** (Sociedad de Desarrollo Medioambiental de Aragón (S.A.U.))

This project seeks to demonstrate that the application of treatment technology and an adequate management scheme to pig manure can both contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions and improve the sustainability of pig farming.

- **WOODRUB** (Asociación de Investigación y Desarrollo en la Industria del Mueble y Afines)

The main aim of the WOODRUB project is to develop, test and demonstrate innovative **environmentally friendly** products made from **recycled wood and rubber** from used tyres. The project will provide managers of wood and rubber waste with a new end-of-life route for their products, and offer public and private construction firms a more environmentally friendly product option.

- **AG_UAS** (Asociación de la Industria Navarra)

The project's overall aim is to develop a cost-effective, spatial tool for more efficient, sustainable, water monitoring and management, in line with WFD requirements. It will produce a UAV (unmanned aerial vehicles) technology able to monitor extensive water areas and to provide data that could also be extrapolated to air and soil.

- **GREENING BOOKS** (Acondicionamiento Tarrasense)

The objective of the project GREENING BOOKS is to improve the environmental performance of the publishing sector. This project aims to develop an innovative instrument aimed at all stakeholders across the entire lifecycle of the publishing process, by integrating existing tools, such as Ecolabel, EMAS, Eco-design and LCA, as well as the latest technologies.

- **ECOREGA** (Unións Agrarias – UPA)

The aim of this project is to demonstrate good practices in the management of agricultural organic waste that can help to reduce the environmental impact of cattle farms and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Project actions will focus on using agricultural waste for composting and methane production. An innovative system is proposed that mixes liquid manure from cattle farms with other types of organic waste (swine, bird).

- **ELVISUSTECH** (Asociación de Investigación de las Industrias del Curtido y Anexas)

This project will develop and demonstrate an innovative sorting unit to solve the problems caused by dark plastics, rubber and other difficult materials during recycling. This equipment is designed to enable the achievement of the goals established in future legislation concerning the management of solid wastes from automotive, electric-electronic and other sectors at their end of life – contributing to a closer application of policies and legislation in terms of the ELV and WEEE directives.

- **NOISEFREETEX** (Asociación de Investigación de la Industria Textil)

The NOISEFREETEX project aims to validate demonstrative solutions to reduce noise pollution in industrial estates close to urban areas through the use of textile finishing technologies. The idea is to define specific textile materials that have interesting properties for sound absorption and use them as constructive elements in industrial facilities. The project will also test different kinds of finishing processes and improve material properties.

- **EDEA-RENOV** (Junta de Extremadura)

The purpose of the project is to test and propose concrete solutions for reducing the environmental impact of the housing construction sector. The project will focus on three main areas: renovation, innovation in new constructions, and the use of information and communication technology.

- **UFTEC** (Centro Tecnológico del Agua - Fundación Privada)

The LIFE+ UFTEC project aims to demonstrate the feasibility and economic viability in drinking water treatment plants of direct ultrafiltration (UF) pre-treatment for reverse osmosis as an alternative to conventional pre-treatment: coagulation-flocculation, sedimentation and sand filtration. The proposed alternative technology should reduce economic costs and the environmental impact related to chemical consumption as well as the water losses in conventional pre-treatment.

- **ATLANTIC VINEYARDS** (Diputación Provincial de Pontevedra)

The project aims to demonstrate the need and viability of sustainable management of wine production in the vineyards of the Rías Baixas within an integrated system. It will create an 'Integrated Control System to Minimise the Environmental Risks' based on a net of meteorological sensors located in vineyards, in order to minimise the use of chemical products to those strictly necessary.

- **LOS TOLLOS** (Consejería de Medio Ambiente - Junta de Andalucía)

The project's objective is to restore the soil in the endorheic basin of la laguna de Los Tollos in order to restore the topography and recover the degraded soil in the old lake basin and surrounding areas. Other objectives are to eliminate the connection between the surface aquifer (saline) and the freshwater aquifer and re-establish surface hydrology processes.

- **CLEANFEED** (Dirección Industrias Alimentarias - Consejería de Medio Ambiente, Planificación territorial, Agricultura y Pesca)

The project proposes the development of a prototype to automatically separate food waste from its packaging, thus increasing the amount of vegetable waste that may be commercially reused. Another key objective of the project is to design, prove and validate an action plan to make use of the vegetal food surplus generated in food retailing by transforming it into animal feed. The proposed approach involves demonstrating an innovative methodology to recover vegetal food wastes in a hygienic way.

- **DEMONSTRATION OF KDV TECH** (Sanea Tratamiento de Residuos, S.L.U.)

The project aims to develop the first full-scale demonstration of catalytic depolymerisation technology for the processing of municipal solid waste (MSW) produced in Catalonia. The demonstration plant will be capable of treating up to 30 000 tonnes/yr of mixed MSW and the catalytic depolymerisation technology aims to convert mixed biodegradable MSW into a synthetic diesel, which can replace conventional diesel.

- **DOMOTIC** (Fundación San Valero)

The main objective of the DOMOTIC project is to demonstrate and quantify the CO₂ emissions reduction potential of using intelligent technologies and models of construction in buildings. The project will introduce three models of the latest generation of house automation into three demonstration buildings of different types.

- **SustainGraph** (Asociación Industrial de Óptica, Color)

The SustainGraph project aims to develop an eTool for assessing the environmental impact of graphics products throughout their life-cycle. It will identify and promote good practice in the development of new, sustainable graphics products and services in order to guide European SMEs.

- **RECYCLED-PVB** (Fundación Lurederra)

The Recycled-PVB project aims to develop a pilot plant to demonstrate the purification of polyvinyl butyral (PVB) from laminated glass. The overall objective is to help find a practical and sustainable use for waste glass from vehicles. It will develop knowledge about the specific equipment and technical characteristics required for washing, grinding and processing PVB.

- **Radio-electric Governance** (Centre de Telecomunicacions I Tecnologies de la Informació)

The main objective of the project is to increase information and understanding of electromagnetic fields (EMF) generated by radio communication stations. The project will draw up an inventory of radio communication infrastructure across Catalonia and will monitor and evaluate the EMF generated by this infrastructure, thus providing information for both local authorities and the general public about their strength and impact on health.

- **CONNECT** (Colegio Oficial de Ingenieros Técnicos de La Rioja)

The main goal of this project is to promote the progressive deployment of electric vehicles as an alternative means of urban mobility. The Connect project will establish a pilot network of five 'zero-emission' electric recharging points for electric vehicles. These points will be fully fuelled by renewable energy and should provide a 75% more favourable 'global ecological balance' than recharging from the mains supply.

LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity (8 projects – 31.8 million)

LIFE+Nature (6 projects)

- **UROGALLO CANTABRICO** (Fundación Biodiversidad)

This LIFE Nature project's objective is to improve the conservation status of the Cantabrian capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus cantabricus*). Conservation works will target the Natura 2000 network sites that are being designated in the Cantabrian Mountains and so also benefit the birds' habitat, as well as other allied species. Project outcomes are anticipated to improve the connectivity and functionality of the capercaillie's habitat.

- **MARGAL ULLA** (Xunta de Galicia - Consellería do Medio Rural)

The overall objective of this LIFE Nature project is to help improve the conservation status of *Margaritifera margaritifera* and *Galemys pyrenaicus* in the Ulla river basin, and establish suitable conditions for recovery of the original populations.

- **Δ-LAGOON** (Institut de Recerca i Tecnologia Agroalimentàries)

The main goal of the project is to improve the ecological status of the Alfacada and Tancada lagoons through habitat restoration and management measures, such as improvement of hydrological function, elimination of infrastructure that interferes with connectivity, and creation of new lagoon habitats in existing rice fields and abandoned aquaculture facilities.

- **Life Posidonia Andalusia** (Consejería de Medio Ambiente - Junta de Andalucía)

This LIFE Nature project's main objective is to improve the conservation status of Neptune grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) meadows. This will be achieved by undertaking studies and applying protection measures. Threats to the ecosystems (including pollution, boat anchoring, uncontrolled trawling and traditional local fishing and the expansion of exotic invasive species) will be investigated and mechanisms assessed for mitigating negative impacts on the meadows. Further studies will clarify the broader benefits linked to the meadows, plus the costs of their loss, such as impacts on fish populations, beach regeneration and deterioration of tourist attractions.

- **OXYURA LEUCOCEPHALA-MURCI** (Consejería de Agricultura y Agua)

This project is dedicated to the conservation of the white-headed duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*) in the wetlands of Murcia. It aims to improve understanding of the breeding habitat of the species, extend and conserve its habitat and reduce the impact of humans and other species.

- **TERRITORIO VISIÓN** (Gestión Ambiental, Viveros y Repoblaciones de Navarra, S.A.)

This project aims to significantly enhance the biodiversity of the lower reaches of the Aragon and Argu Rivers – an area of high population density of European mink (*Mustela lutreola*) in western Europe – by improving the conservation status of the species and restoring the fluvial ecosystems on which it depends.

LIFE+ Biodiversity (2 projects)

- **LIFE TRACHEMYS** (Conselleria de medio Ambiente, Agua, Urbanismo y Vivienda – Generalitat Valenciana)

The main aim of this LIFE Biodiversity project is to address the negative environmental impacts on wetland environments from alien exotic turtle species, particularly the red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta*). A strategy will be developed to preserve aquatic endangered species of endemic fish and autochthonous freshwater turtles in Valencia and Portugal by eradicating wild populations of exotic invasive freshwater turtles.

- **Innovation against poison** (Fundación Gypaetus)

This project seeks to implement, monitor, assess and spread innovative and demonstrative actions that significantly improve current strategies for combating illegal poisoning in the EU. The overall goal is to significantly improve the conservation status of endangered species affected by the illegal use of poison at EU level, especially of those whose primary non-natural cause of death is illegal poisoning.

LIFE+ Information and Communication (1 project – 2.2 million)

- **BIOCxLIFE** (Fundación Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente)

The overall objective of the BIOCxLIFE project is to promote the production and consumption of products that allow citizens to contribute to stopping the loss of biodiversity.

SWEDEN - 9 projects (34.7 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (7 projects - 20.9 million)

- **GREECIT** (City of Umeå)

The main objective of this project is to set up a number of actions that will demonstrate methods and techniques that inspire and motivate people to change their behaviour and become part of a process to develop more sustainable city management policies and governance.

- **CLIRE** (Region Skåne)

The CLIRE project aims demonstrate ways of dramatically reducing the carbon footprint of the health sector in Skåne, in line with EU objectives in relation to climate change. The project seeks to: improve the procurement system so that products with a low carbon footprint will have a better chance of winning public tenders; establish a demonstration facility ('the sustainable treatment room') and a working methodology that can be employed by health clinics; and increase the use of renewable energy sources in hospitals, clinics and other health facilities.

- **BIOGASSYS** (Kommunförbundet Skåne)

The overall aim of the project is to demonstrate the potential of biogas to become a major contributor to energy production in Europe and an important tool in mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. BIOGASSYS will demonstrate a sustainable system for biogas production and provide solutions and best practices that can be used to combat critical stages of the biogas life cycle.

- **LICC** (Malmö Stad)

The Climate Living in Cities Concept (CLICC) project will show how citizens may reduce their carbon footprint in the areas of housing, transport, and food and consumer goods. It seeks to reduce the carbon footprint of the city's inhabitants by 50% and thus contribute to the wider EU objective of combating climate change.

- **Mare Purum** (Ekomarine AB)

The main objective of this LIFE project is to demonstrate the long term reduction of marine fouling using an environmentally-friendly hull paint, based on Ekomarine's patented technique. The project will be performed in waters with varying salinity, temperature, depth, and other conditions.

- **Pure Energy Separator** (Alfa Laval Tumba AB)

The project will demonstrate and evaluate an innovative continuous ejection technology, based on a new method of expelling sludge from a separator. The system **does not require any process water and therefore the sludge will be concentrated and dry**. The result will be that more than 90% of the waste oil can be reused. The volume of oil going for incineration will then be reduced, which is in line with the objectives of the Directive for the Disposal of Waste Oils (75/439/EEC).

- **DYEMOND SOLAR** (NLAB Solar AB)

This project seeks to demonstrate a cost-effective means of producing transparent Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells (DSCs), based on a patented technology that uses one-dimensional photonic crystals (1DPCs) to improve the efficiency and colour of solar cells. The demonstrated prototype production system will be a pre-industrial-scale system.

LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity (2 projects – 13.8 million)

LIFE+ Nature (1 project)

- **GRACE** (County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland (Länsstyrelsen i Västra Götalands län))

The main aim of this project is to restore specific habitat types to favourable conservation status within 23 Natura 2000 sites associated with the Swedish archipelago in the Counties of Västra Götaland, Halland, Blekinge and Stockholm. A partnership approach between the four counties is expected to provide operational efficiencies and increase understanding about nature conservation activity in coastal habitats.

LIFE+ Biodiversity (1 project)

- **MIRDINEC** (Swedish Association for Hunting and Wildlife Management)

The objectives of this project focus on halting the loss of EU biodiversity, particularly in wetland areas, caused by the raccoon dog (*Nyctereutes procyonoides*). An early warning system will be established to track immigration of raccoon dogs and innovative culling/management methods will be applied to control the species.

UNITED KINGDOM - 6 projects (16.4 million)

LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance (4 projects – 12.4 million)

- **SSCM4ECAP** (Buckinghamshire County Council)

The project will develop an innovative 'bottom-up' approach to Green Public Procurement. It will demonstrate the use of supply-chain strategies to improve the environmental performance of local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and achieve local authority sustainability targets.

- **EDOC** (The Environment Agency of England and Wales)

The Electronic Duty of Care (EDOC) project intends to develop a national, Internet-based interface to record the collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of waste materials. This aims to enable the monitoring and mapping of waste management without creating a mountainous paper trail.

- **iGREEN** (The Environment Agency of England and Wales)

The iGreen project will demonstrate how environmental guidance for SMEs can be taken to the next level by developing joined-up service provision through the NetRegs website. It will deliver innovative solutions around intelligence gathering, product creation, and dissemination of environmental information and messages through multimedia and multiple channels. Tools will include a legislation generator for Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and environmental e-Learning tools for six different industries.

- **Hydro4LIFE** (International Hydropower Association)

The main aim of this project is to demonstrate the effectiveness of the new Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol (HSAP) and consolidate knowledge on hydropower sustainability performance in the EU. The project also aims to raise awareness and build capacity - primarily via an electronic outreach campaign - about the HSAP and hydropower sustainability performance among all relevant stakeholders, including Member State/EU regulators and policymakers.

LIFE+ Nature (1 project - 2.2 million)

- **Reintroducing *Otis tarda*** (Reintroducing the great bustard *Otis tarda* to southern England)

This project aims to increase the population of great bustards on Salisbury Plain by extending the reintroduction programme to support the establishment of a self-sustaining population over the longer term.

LIFE+ Information and communication (1 project - 1.8 million)

- **RESTORE** (Environment Agency for England & Wales)

The project will develop a network linking policymakers, river basin planners, practitioners and experts across Europe to share information and good practice on river restoration activities. A database of river restoration projects will be created, providing understanding of policy opportunities and constraints, the effectiveness of restoration methods, design issues and project costs/benefits.