



LIFE Platform meeting FOCUS ON WATER RESILIENCE STRATEGY

LIFE Strategic Integrated Projects: a powerful instrument for
implementing the Water Framework Directive



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Where do we come from?

“The LIFE Programme should support projects that contribute to the effective implementation of **Directive 2000/60/EC**

and of **other relevant Union water legislation** that contributes to the achievement of good status of the Union's water bodies by:

- applying, developing and replicating best practice
- mobilising complementary actions under other Union programmes or financial sources.”



REGULATION (EU) 2021/783
establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)



Why are we here today?

The aim of this LIFE Platform meeting is:

- to **exchange project experiences** about **strategies, methods and tools** on implementing **River Basin Management Plans** in Europe, in order to contribute to the implementation of the **European Water Resilience Strategy**.

The focus is on **LIFE Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) implementing RBMPs** with the fundamental contribution of several LIFE Standard Action Projects.





Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs) – Key features

1. Designed to implement certain **plans and strategies** (i.e. RBMPs)
2. Implemented at a **large territorial scale**
3. Managed by the **competent authority** or entity responsible for the implementation of the plan / strategy targeted
4. Full engagement of all the concerned **stakeholders**
5. **Build capacity** of the competent authority and relevant stakeholders
6. Mobilise, engage & coordinate **complementary funding sources** to further support the implementation of the ambitious EU environmental/climate policy framework
7. **Duration** limited to 14 years including extensions. Usually between 8-10 years.





***Managing a LIFE Standard Action Project is
a demanding task.***

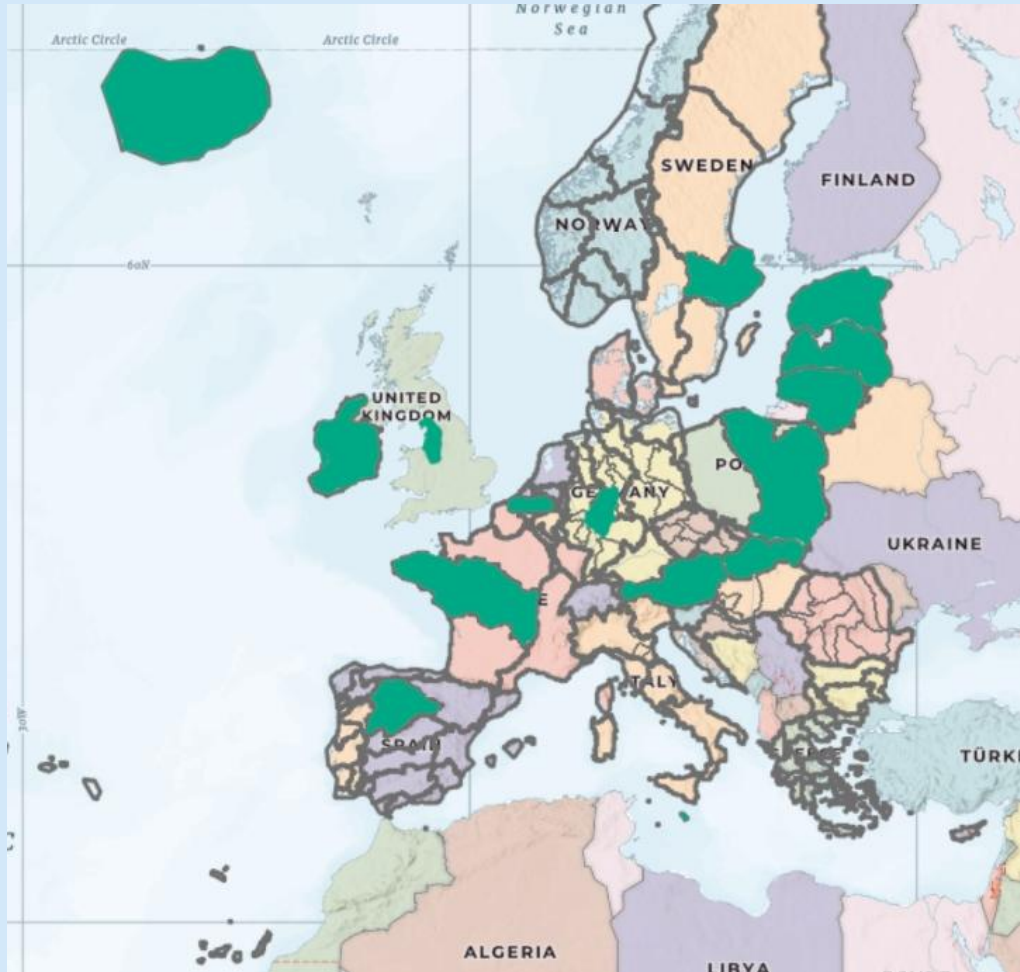
***Managing a LIFE Strategic Integrated
Project....***

Meet our SIPs





Extent of LIFE water SIPs in Europe



 LIFE water SIPs

- 16 Strategic Integrated “Water” Projects funded by LIFE
- Nearly 8 countries entirely covered*
- 4 National RBMPs (AT, MT, IE, IS)
- Estonia: 2 SIPs on 2 RBMPs
- Lithuania and Latvia cover 4 RBMPs each, Belgium 3 RBMPs
- In total: 23 RBMPs implemented

Funding by EU through LIFE

16 Strategic Integrated “water” projects	Total Budget	EUR 322,826,784.00
	EU Contribution	EUR 182,107,433.00*

Complementary funding leverage

EUR 3,723,888,794	20 times the value*
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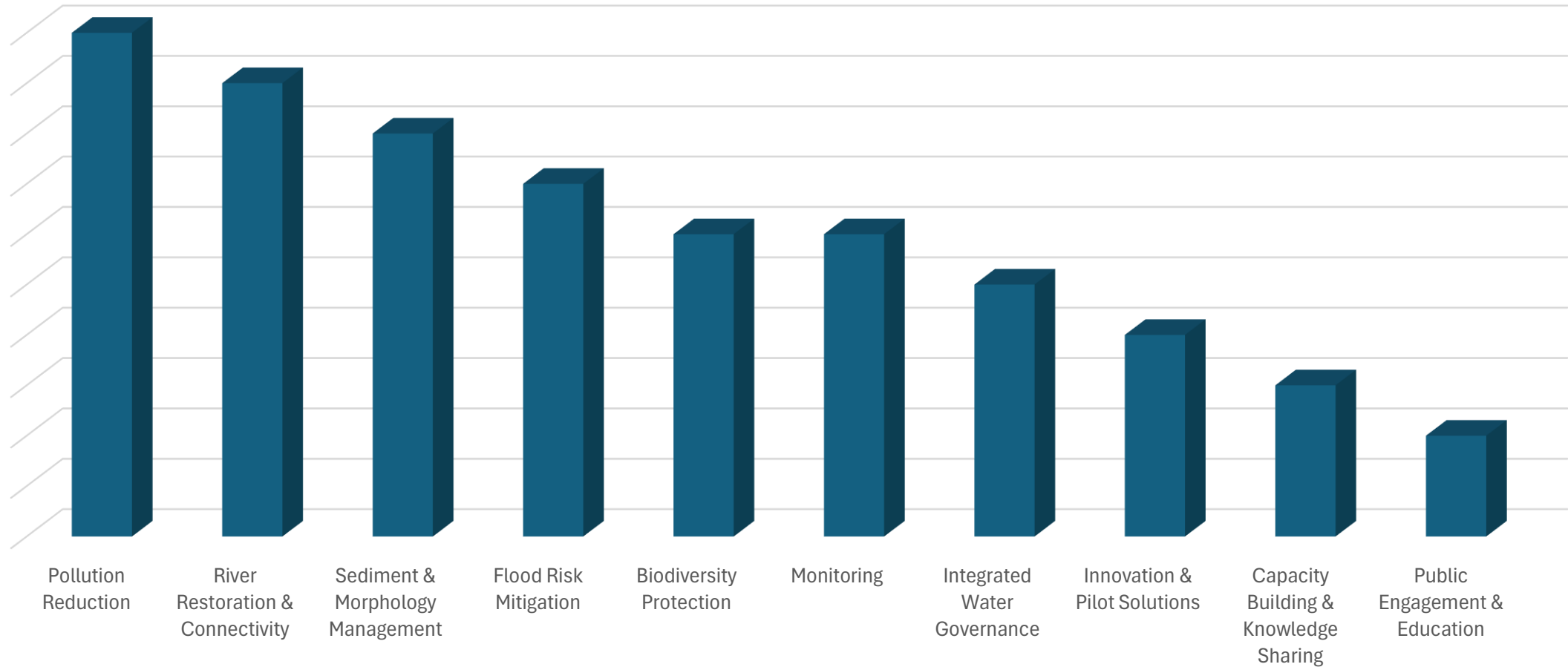
* Figures updated after the presentation



Actions and results



Distribution of measures in Water SIPs



SIPs' LPIs - expected results / Geo-socio-economic

• Project work area	264,560	km ²
	(+176,256)	km ²
• Number of residents within or near the project area	3,780,571	
• Number of persons impacted by the project	1,553,240	
• Number of people influenced by the project	4,096,581	
• Professional training, capacity building and education	20,039 (+420)	
• FTE created	323	



Values between brackets still need to be validated in the LIFE LPI database



SIPs' LPIs - expected results / Water

- Reduction in area or length of surface fresh water bodies or volume of groundwater bodies whose status is affected by issues addressed by the project

Rivers	16,904	km
Reservoirs	420 (+ 1,018)	km ²

- Terrestrial extent affected by the pressure or risk addressed
km²

748 (+ 9294)

- Increasing water retention


308.65 km

- Improved connectivity
km

878

- Number of barriers removed or altered

373

 Water abstraction/ diversion
m³/y

14 million


SIPs' LPIs - expected results / Land

- Sustainable forest management 100 ha
- Soil decontamination 25 ha
- Sustainable soil management (1100 km²)
- Ecosystems and their services 138 ha
- Natural and semi-natural habitats 51 ha



SIPs' LIFE performance indicators / expected results – Pollution control

Nutrients		
Phosphorous	2.24 tonnes/year (medium term)	Point source pollution
Total nitrogen	8.59 tonnes/y (medium term)	Point source pollution
Phosphorous	106.2 tonnes/year	Diffused source pollution
Total nitrogen	7,820 t/y (+ 490 t/y of 2023)	
BOD	4.61 tonnes/y (medium term)	
Chemicals		
Total PAHs (Benzo(a)pyrene, Benzo(b)fluoranthene, Benzo(k)fluoranthene, Benzo(g,h,i)perylene, Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene)	95 kg/y	Diffused source pollution
Copper and its compounds	32 kg/y	
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	(1.7 kg/y)	
Mercury and its compounds	(49 kg/y)	
Cadmium and its compounds	(4 kg/y)	



The progress achieved is remarkable...

...yet significant challenges remain.

Please make use of workshops and networking to share your experiences and gain knowledge.



Thank you



https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/life_en