

LIFE 2016

Environment - Water

Brussels

Policy Relevance
Neemo – LIFE Monitoring Team
17th October 2017

neemo LIFE TEAM

European Commission | Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

Policy relevance

LIFE Environment and Resource Efficiency aims specifically at contributing to the implementation, updating and development of European Union environmental policy and legislation, including the integration of the environment into other policies, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Issues

How does your project contribute to (EU, national, regional) Policies?

How do you expect that Policies will help your project?

Summary Table – Primary Policy

	PRIORITY AREA				Water, Floods and Droughts							Marine & Coastal			Water Industry		
	WFD	FD	MSFD	RE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	1	2	3
Agueda PT	■	■								■							
Agrogestor	■					■											
Alchemia ES	■														■		
Algaecan ES	■			■													■
B2E4 GR	■														■		
Bactiwater ES	■		■				■										
Cleanup ES	■								■						■		
Demine ES	■																
DeNTreat IT	■			■											■		
DESEACROP ES	■										■						■
Dime ES	■			■													■
Dreamer ES	■			■											■		
Dry4Gas ES				■											■		
Ecogranular ES	■			■											■		
LessWatt IT				■											■		
Libernitrate ES	■			■											■		
Newest ES	■														■		
Remedia IT			■									■					
Smart Water DE				■											■		
Waterway ES				■												■	

Summary Table – Secondary Policies

	WFD	Resource Efficient	MSFD	FD	Drinking water	UWWT	Nitrates	Groundwater	RED	IPPC	Industrial Emissions	REACH	EQS	Priority Substances	Sewage Sludge	Climate change adapt	Blueprint for water	Waste Directive	Mining waste	Landfill	Soil Protection	Euratom	Habitats/biodiversity	Invasive Alien Species	CFP / CAP	Eel Stocks	Air Quality	Soil Strategy
Agueda PT																							+	+	+	+		
Agrogestor ES	+				+		+										+								+			
Alchemia ES								+		+							+					+					+	
Algaecan ES		+							+	+							+	+		+	+						+	
B2E4 GR		+				+									+					+								
Bactiwater ES	+					+									+								+					
Cleanup ES		+			+	+							+	+		+												
Demine ES			+																+									
DeNTreat IT						+				+		+								+								
DESEACROP ES	+	+					+	+								+									+			
Dime ES											+						+	+									+	
Dreamer ES																	+											
Dry4Gas ES						+									+			+		+							+	+
Ecogranular ES	+				+		+	+						+														
LessWatt IT	+					+																					+	
Libernitrate ES			+				+									+									+		+	
Newest ES		+				+		+								+		+				+	+					
Remedia IT	+																						+					
Smart Water DE	+				+	+																						
Waterway ES	+				+				+									+										

LIFE 16 ENV/PT/000411: AGUEDA

Conservation and management actions for migratory fish in the Vouga river basin

The elimination of hydro-morphological pressures (or their substantial mitigation) towards the re-establishment of conditions of good ecological status.

All relevant directives are addressed (WFD, FD, HD, Biodiversity Strategy, Council Regulation 1100/2007 Establishing measures for the recovery of eel stocks, Invasive Alien Species, Common Fisheries Policy). Relevant stakeholders are identified.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000437: ALCHEMIA

Towards a smart and integral treatment of natural radioactivity in water provision services

To demonstrate the technical and economic feasibility of bed filters to remove radioactivity from water and to minimize the generation of naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM) exceeding the exemption levels.

All relevant directives are addressed (Drinking Water, Euratom, GW, IPPC, National regulations in Estonia and Spain) Note that the WHO air guidelines are mentioned – the reasons are not clear. Relevant stakeholders (includes agencies and gov administrations for environmental protection) are identified and preliminary communications strategy shows appropriate engagement levels .

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000180: ALGAECAN

Adding sustainability to the fruit and vegetable processing industry through solar powered algal wastewater treatment

To replace the traditional aerobic digestion with a microalgae culture treatment for the treatment of FVPI wastewater to reduce sludge and nutrient losses.

Most relevant directives are addressed (GW, Waste, RE, Soil protection). No mention of WFD. Note that the WHO air guidelines are mentioned – the reasons are not clear. Relevant stakeholders are identified in D1.

LIFE 16 ENV/GR/000298: B2E4

New concept for energy self-sustainable wastewater treatment process and biosolids management

To improve the performance of overloaded and under-performing WWTPs and protect the aquatic environment against pollution at reduced energy consumption and reusing the biosolids for electricity production.

Relevant directives are addressed (WFD, UWWT, Landfill, Sewage Sludge, RE). Relevant stakeholders (regional and national) are identified in B4.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000390: BACTIWATER

An environmental cost-effective activation treatment for biological failures in WWTP

To demonstrate that the proposed tools can reduce the impact of failures of biological units after spills.

Relevant directives are addressed (UWWT, HD, WFD). Relevant stakeholders (regional and national plus EU Parliament and relevant DGs) are identified in B4 - methods mentioned (but these are largely the same for each stakeholder group). Marketing activities and expected results articulated. Targets of 20 EU policy makers and 2 EU workshops planned. Additional activities arranged for local authorities.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000169: CLEANUP

Validation of adsorbent materials and advanced oxidation techniques to remove emerging pollutants in treated wastewater. Project aims to totally eliminate emergent pollutants without the generation of residues, reusing all materials and renewable energy

Relevant directives are addressed (UWWT, EQS, Priority Substances, WFD, RE, DW, CC adaption, biodiversity strategy). Consortium has right mix of technical skills. But not all relevant stakeholders are considered – policy makers not included – potential impact on priority substances – no mechanism for interaction.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000218: DEMINE

Decreasing the environmental impact caused by abandoned mines on water bodies. One objective is to develop a tool that permits public bodies, regulators, policy makes and other key stakeholders to be aware of the performance and environmental benefits of the technology.

Relevant directives are addressed (WFD, Mining Waste Directive, MSFD, Biodiversity Strategy). Good range of stakeholders considered – list of regulatory, policy makers and water managers listed in Part B4.

LIFE 16 ENV/IT/000345: DeNTreat

Decentralized innovative treatment of ammonium rich urban wastewater in pre-treatment modules. Specifically targets Digital Textile Printing (DTP), a high growth area

Relevant directives are addressed (UWWT, IPPC, REACH, Landfill). Good range of stakeholders considered – lists policy makers as a separate group in Part B4 and elaborates methods of engagement which are different from other groups.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000410: DIME

Demonstration of an innovative technology for the minimization of the environmental impact of metal finishing processes. Treating wastewater characterized by high contaminant loads and toxic components and to recover valuable raw materials.

Most relevant directives and policies are addressed (WFD, IED, Circular Economy, Waste, Ambient Air Quality, Blue Print for Water), could not find a reference to UWWT? Good range of stakeholders identified in Part B4. Communication strategy B4 – opportunity to update surface treatment of metals and plastics BREF document (B3).

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000223: DREAMER

Demonstration of an environmentally friendly desalination system concept: transforming seawater into valuable resources. Objective is to fully convert seawater extracted in most energy efficient manner and reducing waste discharges and chemical consumption.

Most relevant directives and policies are addressed (WFD, Energy Efficiency, Blueprint for water, resource efficiency, circular economy), could not find a reference to MSFD? Good range of stakeholders identified in Part B4. Community 2.2 in General target audience (B4) cites central govt (national and regional ministries) – targeted press campaigns and specific workshop, lobbying.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000342: DRY4GAS

Waste water sludge solar drying for energy recovery through gasification. Reduction of environmental impacts associated with conventional management of sludge. Project aims to influence the revision of the sewage sludge directive.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (Sewage Sludge, soil strategy, roadmap on CO_2 emissions, circular economy, Landfill, Waste, UWWT). Good range of stakeholders identified in Part B4.3 notes that stakeholders will be identified as the project progresses. National agencies (DG Agriculture and DG Environment).

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000196: ECOGRANULAR

Demonstration project for groundwater treatment with an innovative system based on aerobic granular technology. Improvement of drinking water affected by organic pesticides and inorganic pollution in small towns in rural areas.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (DW, Priority substances, GW Nitrates, resource efficiency, WFD). Good range of stakeholders identified in Part B4. Project aims more to deliver existing policy than have impact/change on policy.

LIFE 16 ENV/IT/000486: LessWATT

Innovative wireless tool for reducing energy consumption and GHG emission of water resource facilities. Development of a tool for minimizing the GHG due to water resource recovery facilities. Specific objective 2: to facilitate the implementation of EU and National Environmental Policy. Main environmental drivers (B2) are energy use and reduction in GHG.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (resource efficiency, roadmap on CO_2 emissions, Pollutant release and transfer register, WFD, UWWT). Part B4 identifies the local and regional authorities in Italy and outlines their anticipated role. Other European policy makers not identified.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000419: LIBERNITRATE

Responsible reduction of nitrates in the comprehensive water cycle. Groundwater will be treated to remove nitrates – results in more 'feed' water for RO systems and less discarded water. Specific objective 4: to formally adopt the project outcomes in the general policies of the EU and promote specific lines of funding in Operational Programmes. Output is a political plan which promotes funding lines (EARDF and ERDF).

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (Nitrates, resource efficiency, WFD, GHG, GW, MSFD, CAP). Appropriate stakeholders identified in part B4 and engagement plan is relevant.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000156: NEWEST

New urban wastewater treatment based on natural coagulants to avoid phosphorus pollution allowing mud's agri-valorization. New natural bases polymer to replace chemical coagulants. Should improve removal of P, TSS and NTU in treated water.

Most relevant directives and policies are addressed (WFD, GW, UWWT, Waste Biodiversity, Climate change, circular economy). Could also address sewage sludge? Especially in light of forthcoming revisions? Appropriate stakeholders identified in part B4 and policy makers mentioned.

LIFE 16 ENV/IT/000343: REMEDIA

Remediation of the marine environment and development of innovative aquaculture: exploitation of edible and non-edible biomass. Controlling the impact if aquaculture using polychaetes and sponges instead of molluscs and algae.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (MSFD, strategic guidelines for sustainable aquaculture, WFD, Blue growth, Biodiversity , HD). Could also address sewage sludge? Especially in light of forthcoming revisions? Appropriate stakeholders identified. But no specific mention of policy makers in Part B1. Part B3 mentions updating/developing and implementing EU legislation in this field. Also positive indirect effects on policies as well as jobs – mentions participation of the population in decision making. Not clear whether actions are designed to deliver this

LIFE 16 ENV/DE/000550: SMART Water

Demonstration of smart actuators to reduce water losses and energy consumption in water supply infrastructure in Europe. Aim is to retrofit leaking valves using wireless actuators to achieve 50% reduction of water losses and 30% energy saving.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (DW, Resource efficiency, UWWT and WFD). Appropriate stakeholders identified but it is expected that interest could ramp up if the beneficiary can demonstrate a cost-effective technology. The project is not designed to influence policy but is designed to implement policy.

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000533: Waterway

To develop a strategy to recover traditional public fountains as a micro-supply solution in areas where centralized water consumption networks are not available. Implemented along the St James Way. Health guaranteed water from natural sources using water purification and vending type system supplies.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (Drinking Water, Waste and Health–WFD and Euratom also mentioned). Appropriate and very wide range of stakeholders identified (part B4).

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000287: Agrogestor

To reduce the environmental impact of irrigation farming using a decision support tool to make water use more efficient and to improve the quality of water. This is a water governance project.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (WFD, EIP water guidelines, Blueprint for Water, Nitrates, Drinking water (abstraction) and CAP ('greening') – emphasis on pricing policies and possible impact of project in facilitating change in governance. Could be more emphasis on resource efficiency? Partnership is strong, former LIFE 11 beneficiary, farming advisors and a GIS web developer. Appropriate stakeholders identified build on basis of former project (part B4).

LIFE 16 ENV/ES/000341: DESEACROP

Demonstration of the sustainable management of remineralised, desalinated water for crop production in closed soilless systems to achieve 20% reduction of water use and reductions in energy use and GHG emissions.

Relevant directives and policies are addressed (WFD, Nitrates, GW, EIP – Water, Resource Efficiency, CC, CAP). Appropriate stakeholders identified – European (15), national and regional policymakers (30) identified – methods of engagement different to other stakeholder groups (2 European workshops, 3EU and 2 national conferences) all stated clearly in part B4 and Table 4-1.1. Also states 'Active communication campaign with policy makers and administrative authorities' under the auspices of associated beneficiary CUCN.

Concluding thoughts

- Be aware that the policy environment might change between the start and the end of the project and certainly in the AfterLife phase.
- Check your proposal (Part B3) for the policies you mentioned – are they still valid and do you have a way to report on progress against different policy areas
- Reflect on the information provided in Part B in general and whether this is properly elaborated in the actions – make sure the links are there
- How should we engage with policy makers – the method should be different to other stakeholder groups - develop an advocacy plan
- When is the best time to engage with policy makers? Develop a strategic approach.
- Should there be a specific action and deliverable about policy if there is an objective on policy?

Wishing you Success
in achieving
sustainable results...

Thank you!