

- d. innovative management schemes addressing, in particular, water related ecosystem services, which could provide potential funding mechanisms to achieve the Biodiversity Strategy targets and contribute to aims of the Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive.
2. Projects implementing actions targeting **Invasive Alien Species** (under Target 5 of the Biodiversity Strategy or in view of contributing to reaching the level of protection set out in descriptor 2 - Non-indigenous species of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive<sup>22</sup>) through actions testing and applying approaches aimed at:
  - a. preventing the introduction of invasive alien species, in particular by tackling pathways of unintentional introduction,
  - b. establishing an early warning and rapid response system, and
  - c. eradicating or controlling established invasive alien species on an appropriate spatial scale.

These projects shall address with their actions the three steps (prevention; early warning and rapid response; eradication/control) in a comprehensive framework, or, where one of the steps has already been addressed, their actions shall at least be clearly situated in a broader framework that links all three steps. They should be set up to improve existing – or introduce new – technical, administrative or legal frameworks on the relevant level; they should aim at preventing the broader establishment of IAS within the EU.

3. Projects targeting **threatened species** that are not included in the annexes of the Habitats Directive but that have a status of "**endangered**" or **worse** in the European Red Lists ([http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/redlist/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/redlist/index_en.htm)) or in the IUCN Red List for those species that are not covered by the European Red Lists (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/>).
4. Pilot or demonstration projects using **innovative ways of direct or indirect financing** (including public and private partnerships, fiscal instruments, biodiversity offsets etc.) for Biodiversity-related activities in the public and private sector.
5. Pilot or demonstration projects testing and then implementing **Green Infrastructure actions** focusing on:
  - a. innovative technologies and the development and application of technical standards regarding them;
  - b. the preservation or restoration of ecosystems for the benefit of human health; or
  - c. cost-efficient technologies and methods that minimise the impact of existing energy and transport infrastructures on biodiversity by strengthening the functionality of spatially linked ecosystems.

### **3.3. PRIORITY AREA ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND INFORMATION**

Pursuant to Article 12 (a) of the LIFE Regulation, the project topics corresponding to this priority area and the related thematic priorities listed in Annex III to the LIFE Regulation, shall pursue the specific objective “to promote awareness raising on environmental matters, including generating public and stakeholder support of Union policy-making in the field of the

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<sup>22</sup>Annex I (2) Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy (Marine Strategy Framework Directive), OJ 164/19

environment, and to promote knowledge on sustainable development and new patterns for sustainable consumption.”

### **LIFE Regulation Annex III**

#### **Priority area Environmental Governance and Information:**

- (a) *information, communication and awareness raising campaigns in line with the priorities of the 7th Environment Action Programme;*
- (b) *activities in support of effective control process as well as measures to promote compliance in relation to Union environmental legislation, and in support of information systems and information tools on implementation of Union environmental legislation.*

#### **Information, communication and awareness raising campaigns – Annex III, section C, point (a)**

The geographical scope of awareness information, communication and awareness raising campaigns will be taken into account in the assessment of the European added value of proposed projects.

#### **Water**

1. Awareness-raising on **WFD obligations and opportunities**, targeting authorities and other actors who can contribute to identifying cost effective solutions to be included in River Basin Management Plans and regarding flood protection, sediment management, hydropower, navigation, transport, spatial planning, chemical industry, and agriculture.
2. Projects to develop and test **water pricing policies** based on innovative approaches, where the over-user pays principle is added to the polluter pays principle, defining clear and measurable efficiency targets for each area of activity at the relevant level.
3. Projects aiming to initiate **beach and sea clean-up schemes** as a means to increase awareness of the impacts of marine litter, and thereby increasing awareness on issues related to the protection of the marine environment that are targeted by the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC).
4. Awareness-raising on **MSFD obligations and opportunities** (other than marine litter, see point 3 above), targeting authorities and other stakeholders, in particular from within the fisheries and maritime sectors who can contribute to identifying cost effective solutions to be included in Marine Strategies and Programmes of Measures with a view to the achievement of ‘good environmental status’ in line with the 11 Descriptors set out in Annex I to the MSFD.
5. Projects where stakeholders and authorities collaborate **transnationally** across borders of national jurisdictions on implementing **Sea Basin Strategies**.

#### **Waste**

1. Awareness-raising and training on **phasing out landfilling of recyclable or recoverable waste** (so as to limit landfilling to residual i.e. non-recyclable and non-recoverable waste).
2. Information campaigns raising awareness and encouraging behavioural changes on key waste-related issues with a focus on **waste reduction, in particular regarding WEEE and plastic waste**.

#### **Resource Efficiency including soil and forests, and green and circular economy:**

1. Awareness raising and development of guidance material for **European users of genetic resources**, in particular researchers and SMEs, in order to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the Regulation on Access and Benefit Sharing, as well as support activities for European collections of genetic resources, for instance to improve the organisation and documenting of samples.
2. Awareness-raising campaigns promoting sustainable consumption with a focus on **food waste and optimal storage of food**
3. Awareness-raising campaigns promoting sustainable consumption with a focus on the **consumption of soil and land resources**.
4. Awareness-raising and active intervention information campaigns (both active interventions and general awareness-raising) on the **economic and financial benefits of resource efficiency, including soil**.
5. Capacity building campaigns to allow for **coordination and guidance on relevant and EU representative forest and forest fire information**. These projects should aim at coordinating national or transnational forest fire related information regarding forest fire emissions, the valuation of fire damages, including guidance on cost-efficient use of resources for forest fire prevention, and burnt areas, in particular Natura2000 areas. They should also give guidance regarding a common approach at Union level.

#### **Air quality and emissions, including urban environment**

1. Awareness-raising and training on **air quality in urban areas and its health effects** where people and ecosystems are exposed to high levels of pollutants.
2. Awareness raising by promoting low cost monitoring and evaluation systems for Air Quality.
3. Development and demonstration of integrated systems providing **easy access to publicly available information** on industrial installations, including permits, emission data and inspection reports:

#### **Environment and Health including Chemicals and Noise**

1. Awareness raising of citizens and consumers about **hazard information on chemicals in articles**.
2. Awareness raising of citizens and consumers about the **safe use of chemicals in products bearing a safety warning label**.
3. Awareness-raising of companies (importers, manufacturers, downstream users, retailers, including SMEs) about their **duties under REACH** to notify the presence of substances of very high concern in articles they produce or import, and/or companies' duties under the Biocidal Products Regulations with regard to treated articles.
4. Communication campaigns on **environmental noise data and the health effects of noise** on the population, as required by the Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC.

#### **Nature and Biodiversity**

1. National or transnational awareness raising campaigns with the objective of raising public awareness on **Natura 2000**. These campaigns should be conceived in a way to ensure a significant change in awareness of the natural values (including ecosystem services) for which Natura 2000 has been set up, and, possibly, lead to positive behavioural changes in a large part of the target public and/or specific social, administrative or economic sectors.

2. Awareness raising campaigns on **large carnivores** at the relevant species' population level.
3. National and transnational information and awareness raising campaigns on the EU **Biodiversity Strategy**, aimed at increasing the awareness and understanding of citizens and key stakeholders, including policy makers, businesses, and local, regional or national authorities, of the Strategy's aims and objectives.
4. National and transnational awareness raising campaigns on **invasive alien species (IAS)** targeting the general public and key stakeholders including policy makers, businesses, and local, regional or national authorities.
5. Awareness raising campaigns regarding **Green Infrastructure** targeting key stakeholder groups, promoting best practice, and/or improving the generation, analysis and dissemination of technical and spatial data for the deployment of Green Infrastructure.

#### **Governance and enforcement**

1. Awareness-raising and training on **access to justice in the field of environment**, including on how to ensure and measure the efficiency and effectiveness of judicial review procedures, for the judiciary, bodies responsible for the administration of justice, public administrations , and public interest lawyers.
2. Awareness-raising on the **Environmental Liability Directive (ELD)** for industrial operators, loss adjusters, risk assessment experts, decentralised competent authorities (in Member States where the designation of competent authorities is at local or regional level), and environmental NGOs, with regard to the rights and obligations of each stakeholder group.
3. Awareness raising and development of guidance material for researchers, SMEs, and public bodies as **European users of genetic resources**, in order to facilitate compliance with the requirements of the Regulation on Access and Benefit Sharing, as well as support activities for European collections of genetic resources, to improve the organisation and documenting of samples.

#### **Activities in support of effective control process as well as measures to promote compliance – Annex III, section C, point (b)**

##### **Enforcement, inspections and surveillance**

1. Projects aimed at increasing the **efficiency and effectiveness of environmental inspections and surveillance**, through:
  - application of risk criteria in a strategic way with a view to assessing, evaluating and mitigating the most serious types of non-compliance with EU environment law;
  - fostering cooperation and coordination between different inspection and surveillance bodies with a view to streamlining and optimising the use of inspection and surveillance resources;
  - the creation and use of electronic records of inspection and surveillance work with a view to enabling the efficiency and effectiveness of such work to be more easily measured and evaluated; and/or
  - optimising the communication and active dissemination to the public of the results of inspection and surveillance work.
2. Projects aimed at increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of activities aimed at **combating environmental crime** through:

- fostering the sharing of experience and best practice between public bodies charged with investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating environmental crime;
- optimising the sharing of intelligence and other information between public bodies charged with investigating environmental crime, notably crime involving cross-border movements of waste, wildlife and timber trade or chemicals, including training for enforcement officers, financial investigation units, customs officers, police officers dealing with environmental crime, prosecutors and the judiciary.

### **Sharing of best practice**

1. Projects supporting the exchange of best practice and development of skills of **Natura 2000 site managers**, following recommendations from the new Natura 2000 bio-geographical seminars.
2. Projects aimed at developing and supporting the role of **networks of volunteers** with the aim of ensuring their long term contribution to the active management of the Natura 2000 network.
3. Projects enhancing **science-policy integration** through the transfer of results and/or best practices, to provide a solid technical background in support of REACH, the Test Methods Regulation<sup>23</sup> or other **chemicals legislation**, or the Directive on the **protection of animals used for scientific purposes**<sup>24</sup>.
4. Projects promoting the exchange of best practices in relation to **air quality legislation** focused on monitoring and modelling, emission inventories, management practices, source attribution, information sharing, coordination and support.
5. Exchange of knowledge and good practice on **green public procurement (GPP)** between public authorities covering at least two of the following elements: green elements in tender documents; evaluation of verification of green criteria; costs and benefits of green purchase; working with existing suppliers to reduce environmental impact and costs of contracts already awarded; monitoring of GPP activities; market consultation; information on market availability; setting up and functioning of central purchasing bodies with specific GPP competence.

### **Promoting non-judicial conflict resolution**

1. Projects aimed at promoting **non-judicial conflict resolution** as a means of finding amicable and effective solutions for conflicts in the environmental field, for example by activities and events aimed at training practitioners or sharing best practice and experience in the use of mediation in the field of the environment.

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<sup>23</sup> Commission Regulation (EC) No 440/2008 of 30 May 2008 laying down test methods pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), OJ L 142 of 31 May 2008, p.1.

<sup>24</sup> Directive 2010/63/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2010 on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes, OJ L 276 of 20 October 2010, p.33.