



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
Department B - LIFE and H2020 Energy, Environment & Resources
Unit B3 - LIFE and CIP Eco-Innovation

LIFE18 Kick-off meeting Climate Action Projects (CCA, CCM, GIC)

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Crowne Plaza Hotel, Place Charles Rogier 20, 1210 Brussels

Project Summaries

ADAPTATION PROJECTS (CCA)

WORKING GROUP A1 – Adaptation in agriculture/forestry/tourism

LIFE18 CCA/IT/001145 STONEWALLSFORLIFE

Using Dry-Stone Walls as a Multi-purpose Climate Change Adaptation tool

Drystone terraces are considered an important measure in the Mediterranean region to counteract the effects of climate change on the local economy and environment, and prevent soil loss. The STONEWALLSFORLIFE project is demonstrating the viability of drystone terraces as a climate change adaptation measure in the Cinque Terre National Park in Italy. The project is restoring abandoned drystone terraces for use by local farmers. Innovative techniques are being used to improve their performance in terms of drainage and landslide prevention. Additional techniques will be trialled in Spain to also counteract wildfires.

Coordinating beneficiary: Ente Parco Nazionale delle Cinque Terre

Contact: Patrizio Scarpellini - euprojects@parconazionale5terre.it

External Monitoring Expert: Chiara Spotorno - chiara.spotorno@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Laura Giappichelli - Laura.Giappichelli@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/ES/001099 LIFE MIDMACC

Securing freshwater from mountain areas through concerted land management practices

Mountain areas are a major source of freshwater, but are also highly vulnerable to climate and man-made changes. Careful land management to diversify these areas is a strong way to help them adapt to climate change. This means converting or maintaining a complex variety of agro-forest-pastoral land which encourages greater biodiversity and stronger ecosystem services like water supply and carbon retention. LIFE MIDMACC will focus on marginal mid-mountain areas in Spain to promote this type of climate change adaptation. It will test three approaches in nine areas of scrubland, forest areas and vineyards.

Coordinating beneficiary: Ecological and Forestry Applications Research Centre (CREAF)

Contact: Javier Retana - eduard.pla@uab.cat

External Monitoring Expert: Cristobal Gines - crisobal.gines@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Laura Giappichelli - Laura.Giappichelli@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/ES/001109 LIFE Vida for Citrus

Early detection to prevent disease spread in citrus fruits

20% of citrus fruits are produced in the Mediterranean, and the region accounts for 70% of global exports. But these are vulnerable to a disease called *Huanlongbing* (HLB) or “citrus greening”, caused by *Candidatus Liberibacter spp*, a bacterium which has spread by insects. One of these insects, the African citrus psyllid (*Trioza erytreae*), has been found in Spain and Portugal. There is no known cure for the disease, and control measures cause a heavy environmental toll. LIFE Vida for Citrus will develop an early detection kit for the disease, test new rootstocks which can be resilient to the disease and to heat, and demonstrate effective, sustainable control measures. In tests in nine orchards in four countries, the project will also save 1 000 tonnes of CO₂, and raise awareness among 450 000 people throughout the EU.

Coordinating beneficiary: Asociación Agraria Jóvenes Agricultores Málaga

Contact: Benjamín Faulí - projects@transferconsultancy.com and fmanrique@asajamalaga.com

External Monitoring Expert: Sara Barcelo - Sara.Barcelo@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Laura Giappichelli - Laura.Giappichelli@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/ES/001110 LIFE MycoRestore

Innovative use of mycological resources for resilient & productive Mediterranean forests threatened by climate change

Mediterranean forests face serious abiotic and biotic stresses due to climate change, especially droughts and pests/diseases. LIFE MycoRestore will demonstrate mycological resources and forest management practices to increase the resilience of Mediterranean forests to drought and forest fires, and to stabilise forest ecosystem services. It also aims at generating new income sources and green jobs, based on wood processing and innovative high-value mushroom products, using a circular economy approach. Finally, the project will provide proof of concept for using natural myco-control products and native fungal species for controlling pests and diseases.

Coordinating beneficiary: Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas

Contact: Ignacio Santa Regina - ignacio.santaregina@irnasa.csic.es

External Monitoring Expert: Maria Jose de la Torre - mariajose.delatorre@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Laura Giappichelli - Laura.Giappichelli@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/ES/001160 LIFE ADAPTA BLUES

Mapping estuaries to protect against flooding and restore coastal areas (ADAPTA BLUES)

Coastal systems such as saltmarshes, seagrass meadow and reef-forming organisms help protect coasts against erosion and flooding, support other ecosystem services, and sequester carbon. On the Atlantic coast, these ecosystems are mainly based around estuaries. The ADAPTA BLUES will map three estuarine areas for factors like potential restoration and flooding scenarios, and standardise how authorities can assess their national estuaries' ecosystem services. It will run a pilot restoration project in the Mondego estuary in Portugal, restoring vegetation and sediment build-up. These activities will enable the project to define technical recommendations on climate change adaptation strategies for coastal areas, and also roll out a special diploma on the subject.

Coordinating beneficiary: Fundación Instituto de Hidráulica Ambiental de Cantabria

Contact: Jose Antonio Juanes de la Peña - buenop@unican.es and patricia.bueno@unican.es

External Monitoring Expert: Sara Mora Vicente - sara.mora@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Laura Giappichelli - Laura.Giappichelli@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/FR/001184 LIFE ADAPT'ISLAND

Guadeloupe's port authorities on board to restore precious Caribbean coastlines

The port authorities in the French Caribbean region of Guadeloupe are looking to strengthen more than 5 500 ha of coastline and build a new climate adaptation strategy for over 90 000 of its islands' inhabitants. The project LIFE Adapt'Island will restore parts of Guadeloupe's precious coral reefs, mangrove forests and seagrass meadows – all of which provide vital ecosystem services and essential defense against climate change, but are threatened by degradation, hurricanes, and human impacts like waste and ocean acidification. The restoration work sets out to show how the Caribbean islands can better protect their habitats and biodiversity from climate change while pursuing sustainable socio-economic development.

Coordinating beneficiary: Grand Port Maritime de la Guadeloupe (GPMG)

Contact: Sita Narayanan – s-narayanan@port-guadeloupe.com

External Monitoring Expert: Mathilde Redon - Mathilde.Redon@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Laura Giappichelli - Laura.Giappichelli@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/DE/001105 LIFE Roll-outClimAdapt

Climate change adaptation at the heart of urban planning

Europe needs to adapt to climate change at regional and national level. Regions and cities need the tools to become more climate resilient, and must put climate change adaptation at the heart of their urban planning. LIFE Roll-out ClimAdapt will design adaptation processes which can be replicated between regions, improve data on climate change impacts in regional vulnerability assessments, and support capacity-building. By developing new training and networks, the project will enable more regions to put better climate change adaptation measures in place.

Coordinating beneficiary: TU Dortmund

Contact: Jürgen Schultze - schultze@sfs-dortmund.de

External Monitoring Expert: Lars Borrass - lars.borrass@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Bernd Decker - Bernd.Decker@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/ES/001122 LIFE WATERCOOL

Helping cities cope with the effects of climate change

Most climate models predict heatwaves will increase in places that experience hot, dry summers, such as Andalusia, putting more pressure on water resources. Urban planners need innovative tools to respond and adapt to the impacts of climate change. LIFE WATERCOOL will develop and test new ways of coping with high temperatures, temporarily high water run-off and droughts in an urban environment. It will use the water infrastructure in Seville as a vehicle for cooling measures and to improve the efficiency of water use, maximising sustainability and citizens' well-being.

Coordinating beneficiary: Empresa Metropolitana de Abastecimiento y Saneamiento de Aguas de Sevilla, S.A.

Contact: Leonor Rodriguez - lrodriguez@emasesa.com

External Monitoring Expert: Dimas Ramos - dimas.ramos@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Bernd Decker - Bernd.Decker@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/FR/001150 LIFE Green Heart

Generate resilient actions against the heat island effect on urban territory

The impacts of heatwaves are amplified by urban heat island (UHI) effects. For example, UHI effects increase temperatures on average by 4°C in Toulouse, France; where an exhibition centre is being relocated, freeing space in the heart of the city for greening. The Greenheart project aims to reduce average local temperature by 3°C during heatwaves in this 30 ha site on the Ile du Ramier, by increasing green space and vegetation, restoring biodiversity, consolidating green and blue infrastructure, limiting air and noise pollution by discouraging cars and developing cycling and walking routes, and creating tools to support urban development policy.

Coordinating beneficiary: Toulouse Métropole

Contact: Audeline Rauna– audeline.rauna@toulouse-metropole.fr

External Monitoring Expert: Aurore Lopez - Aurore.Lopez@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Bernd Decker - Bernd.Decker@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/NL/001123 LIFE CRITICAL

Climate Resilience through Involvement of LoCAL citizens

Climate change adaptation can be difficult to implement in the older, more densely-populated neighbourhoods of cities. Such parts of Dordrecht in the Netherlands, for example, are below sea level and are susceptible to flooding. LIFE CRITICAL aims to exploit the potential of the city's parks for climate change adaptation measures, with the active participation of citizens. The project will raise awareness of the importance of adaptation to climate change, gain social acceptance for the necessary measures, and stimulate citizens to participate in the maintenance, operation and monitoring of climate adaptation measures.

Coordinating beneficiary: Municipality of Dordrecht

Contact: Ellen Kelder - etg.kelder@dordrecht.nl

External Monitoring Expert: Nathalie van Isacker - nathalie.vanisacker@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Bernd Decker - Bernd.Decker@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCA/PT/001170 LIFE LUNGS

New green city planning to transform Lisbon

The south European city of Lisbon faces growing pressures from climate change, with rising temperatures and stronger floods as some of the most visible threats. LIFE LUNGS will implement the city's climate adaptation strategy by building up its urban green infrastructure. It will trial zero water waste areas, plant over 100 ha of trees, and put anti-soil erosion and flood resilience measures in place. With expanded green spaces and better use of water, Lisbon will gain stronger ecosystem services which provide water drainage and quality, carbon storage, biodiversity and soil protection. The project will show how urban green infrastructure can be a transformative tool for cities to adapt to climate change.

Coordinating beneficiary: Município de Lisboa (CML)

Contact: Duarte Mata - ver.sa.fernandes@cm-lisboa.pt

External Monitoring Expert: Dimas Ramos - dimas.ramos@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Bernd Decker - Bernd.Decker@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 GIC/BE/001190 LIFE UNIFY

Guiding governments to deliver national energy and climate plans

To meet the 2015 Paris Agreement targets, the EU needs appropriate coordination and monitoring tools in its Member States, as well as the full support of civil society. Current emissions reduction targets for 2030 do not match the Paris Agreement targets. LIFE UNIFY, led by the NGO network CAN Europe, will give national governments guidance and recommendations to help them put in place their national energy and climate plans (NECPs) and encourage more ambitious 2030 targets through the Covenant of Mayors network. It will also report on where EU funds like the cohesion funds should be better aligned with EU-wide and national energy and climate plans.

Coordinating beneficiary: Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe

Contact: Tom Boyle - tom@caneurope.org and wendel@caneurope.org and goksen@caneurope.org

External Monitoring Expert: Christy Duijvelaar - christy.duijvelaar@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Diana Oancea - Diana.Oancea@ec.europa.eu

MITIGATION PROJECTS (CCM)

WORKING GROUP MI – Mitigation in land use/forestry/agriculture

LIFE18 CCM/GR/001180 LIFE CIRCforBIO

A circular economy system for multi-source biomass conversion to added value products

There is a need to incorporate more renewable energy solutions in the transport sector to meet greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets. The CIRCforBIO project aims to achieve high GHG emission savings by substituting fossil fuels with advanced biofuels, and by promoting the implementation of a circular economy concept for biomass. The project will demonstrate an innovative biorefinery concept for the production of bioethanol, using bioproducts from biomass produced from household, catering and industrial food waste, and agricultural residues; and create an interactive platform for realising the circular economy concept for 2nd generation biomass in Greece.

Coordinating beneficiary: National Technical University of Athens

Contact: Maria Loizidou - mloiz@chemeng.ntua.gr

External Monitoring Expert: Sophia Papageorgiou - sophia.papageorgiou@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Hana Mandelikova - Hana.Mandelikova@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/IE/001195 LIFE Farm4More

LIFE Farm4More - Future Agricultural Management for multiple outputs on climate and rural development

Rearing livestock to obtain animal-protein products results in high greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and excess nutrients, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, that can cause water pollution. Life Farm4More will deliver climate change mitigating impacts for animal-protein production by implementing an economically-viable organic animal feed, a biochar production process, and an environmentally-sustainable land management strategy. New feeding strategies for cattle and poultry will reduce nutrient emissions. The project will also optimise biorefinery protein products for a range of feed applications.

Coordinating beneficiary: University College Dublin School of Biosystems & Food Engineering

Contact: Kevin McDonnell - kevin.mcdonnell@ucd.ie and joseph.sweeney@ucd.ie

External Monitoring Expert: Chris People - chris.people@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Hana Mandelikova - Hana.Mandelikova@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/IT/001093 LIFE agriCOlture

Preventing soil degradation in the Emilian Apennines

Many hilly and mountainous areas of central Italy suffer from soil degradation due to intensification of agriculture on the most productive land and the abandonment of land that has deteriorated. The loss of soil organic carbon is an indicator of this problem. LIFE agriCOlture plans to apply sustainable soil management techniques and show their effectiveness in protecting soil organic carbon in mountainous areas of the Emilian Apennines, which are prone to this degradation.

Coordinating beneficiary: Consorzio di Bonifica dell'Emilia Centrale

Contact: Aronne Ruffini - aruffini@emiliacentrale.it

External Monitoring Expert: Carlo Ponzio - carlo.ponzio@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Hana Mandelikova - Hana.Mandelikova@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/IT/001193 GreenChainSAW4LIFE

GREEN energy and smart forest supply CHAIN as driverS for A mountain action plan toWards climate change

Rural mountain areas are critical for achieving climate mitigation targets. However, unmanaged reforestation, population decline and land abandonment has reduced their resilience. The GreenChainSAW4LIFE project will demonstrate a new participatory model of forest management, involving all relevant stakeholders in the management of local forest resources, to meet energy and climate adaptation and mitigation objectives. The project will develop a Decision Support System, comprising data on forest resources, a business model, a carbon flow calculator for different forest management scenarios, and stakeholder-specific graphic interfaces.

Coordinating beneficiary: Iris S.r.l.

Contact: Manuel Lai - lucio.vaira@irissrl.org

External Monitoring Expert: Riccardo Giandrini - Riccardo.Giandrini@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Hana Mandelikova - Hana.Mandelikova@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158 LIFE OrgBalt

Testing ways to cut emissions from nutrient-rich soils

Managed soils that are rich in organic nutrients are one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions in Europe's temperate region. Theoretically, climate change mitigation (CCM) measures have the potential to reduce these emissions by almost 20 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year. The LIFE OrgBalt project will apply sustainable and cost-effective CCM measures suitable for nutrient-rich organic soils, to verify their impact and see whether this level of emissions reduction is realistic.

Coordinating beneficiary: Latvia State Forest Research Institute "Silava"

Contact: Andis Lazdiņš - andis.lazdins@silava.lv

External Monitoring Expert: Olga Melnicenko - olga.melnicenko@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Hana Mandelikova - Hana.Mandelikova@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 GIC/IT/001217 LIFE CLIVUT

Collaborative transformation of urban green spaces in Mediterranean cities

Urban green spaces are a critical resource for cities to become more climate resilient, supporting air quality, soil stability, biodiversity and noise reduction. LIFE CLIVUT will develop an urban green asset strategy for four medium-sized Mediterranean cities in Italy, Greece and Portugal and help city planners make the most of their urban green spaces. It will get businesses and city residents involved in this strategy, encouraging businesses to sign up to climate-responsible business practices. Its tree planting and restoration of native species will bring annual energy savings of 82 000Mwh and sequestration of 230 tonnes of CO₂ and 2 600 tonnes of PM₁₀ (particulate matter) per year.

Coordinating beneficiary: Università degli Studi di Perugia – Dipartimento di ingegneria Civile ed Ambientale

Contact: Flaminia Ventura - flaminia.ventura@unipg.it

External Monitoring Expert: Lorenzo Mengali - lorenzo.mengali@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Hana Mandelikova - Hana.Mandelikova@ec.europa.eu

WORKING GROUP M2 – Mitigation in energy/industry/transport

LIFE18 CCM/ES/001094 LIFE-CO2-INT-BIO

CO2 emissions reduction by industrial integration and value chains creation

In Spain, three energy-intensive industrial sectors that are not expected to reach their targets for carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions reductions could benefit from taking an integrated approach with common goals. The LIFE-CO₂-INT-BIO project will contribute to the mitigation of CO₂ emissions in the commercial CO₂ gas production, biomass power plant, and agri-farming greenhouse sectors by applying new techniques through industrial integration, including increased energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy in industrial processes, sustainable capture and cleaning of CO₂ from biomass flue gas, and the creation of new value chains for CO₂ as a raw material.

Coordinating beneficiary: Fundacion Patrimonio Natural de Castilla y Leon (FPNCYL)

Contact: Jesus Angel Diez Vazquez - jesus.diez@patrimonionatural.org

External Monitoring Expert: Patricia Serrano - Patricia.serrano@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/ES/001114 LIFE HYPOBRICK

Towards hypocarbonic economy. Development of non-fired building materials based on wastes

Ceramics manufacturing is energy intensive, consumes large amounts of raw materials and generates, especially for brick and roof-tile products, considerable greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. LIFE HYPOBRICK will demonstrate the feasibility of manufacturing waste-based building products using an extremely low CO₂ emission process, called the alkaline-activation process (AAP), which substitutes the firing stage with a low-temperature curing stage. The project aims to produce new materials for building that meet international technical and environmental standards; formulate waste-based mixtures for manufacturing bricks; define operating variables for all stages of the AAP; and modify industrial facilities to enable the manufacture of the new building products.

Coordinating beneficiary: Asociación de Investigación de las Industrias Cerámicas

Contact: Mónica Vicent - otri@itc.uji.es and celia.rodriguez@itc.uji.es;

External Monitoring Expert: Sara Barcelo - Sara.Barcelo@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/ES/001189 LIFE CO2 TO FUEL

Making steel production more circular

Steel production is an energy-intensive process that consumes fossil fuels and generates greenhouse gas emissions. One way of reducing these is by reacting hydrogen with CO₂ to produce methane and water, known as the Sabatier process. Technical limitations mean it has never been implemented at industrial scale, but a new laboratory reactor has succeeded in capturing the emissions and producing synthetic fuels and oil products. LIFE CO₂ TO FUEL plans to build and test a pilot plant able to capture CO₂ generated by steelmaking and transform it into hydrocarbons, which can be reused in the steel production chain, cutting emissions and energy requirements.

Coordinating beneficiary: Compañía Espanola de Laminacion sl

Contact: Anna Casals - anna.casals@gcelsa.com and paola.baldivieso@gcelsa.com

External Monitoring Expert: Audrey Thenard - audrey.thenard@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/FR/001095 LIFE ECOTRAVID

Demonstration of emissions-reducing software for heavy goods vehicles

The LIFE ECOTRAVID project will demonstrate the efficiency of its virtual drive simulator, or ‘virtual measurement campaign’ software, for heavy road vehicles. Road transport is responsible for almost 20% of the EU’s greenhouse gas emissions, and by 2050 heavy freight transport vehicles are set to become the main source of CO₂ from surface transport. With hybrid or electrical vehicles not yet used for long-distance haulage, the project’s specialised telematics software looks to reduce truck and trailer fuel consumption and related CO₂ emissions by 5-10%. LIFE ECOTRAVID will run its software on 20 heavy vehicles, and resulting data will feed into a planning and decision-support toolkit for haulage companies to determine which routes offer the best cost for each of their vehicle types.

Coordinating beneficiary: Collecte Localisation Satellites (CLS)

Contact: César Gracia - cesar.gracia@novacom-services.com and cgracia@groupcls.com

External Monitoring Expert: Aurore Lopez - Aurore.Lopez@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Bernd Decker - Bernd.Decker@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 GIC/DE/001209 LIFE FinACTION

Sustainable Finance Climate ACTION

Research has shown that companies that measure their greenhouse gas emissions achieve greater emission reductions over time. The LIFE FinACTION project aims to help European companies comply with existing reporting requirements and to support the EU action plan for financing sustainable growth, with a focus on climate actions. Companies will be enabled to provide transparent, consistent, comparable data, and improved metrics on climate-related performance to capital markets. In particular, this will help companies contribute to management solutions in areas where climate impacts will be most keenly felt: water management, land use change, and biodiversity.

Coordinating beneficiary: Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) Worldwide (Europe)

Contact: Mirjam Wolfrum - mirjam.wolfrum@cdp.net

External Monitoring Expert: Claudia Pfirrmann - claudia.pfirrmann@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Claudia Guerrini - Claudia.Guerrini@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 GIC/FR/001196 Life-MaPerEn

Collaborative tools for help universities and other large buildings cut energy and emissions

The way people use buildings such as offices, universities and housing has a significant impact on energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Along with other technologies put in place to reduce energy and emissions like insulation or renewable energy-use, buildings can also cut their footprint by better understanding how people interact with them. Life-MaPerEn will put in place a new energy awareness and governance plan for the French city of Lille by designing collaborative tools and installing energy measuring devices in various types of building. It looks to cut energy use and emissions by 10% over three years, while putting in place a collaborative platform for students, university staff, city administrative staff and social housing tenants.

Coordinating beneficiary: Institut Catholique de Lille

Contact: Benoit Bourel - benoit.bourel@univ-catholille.fr

External Monitoring Expert: Ellen von Rekowski-Degott - ellen.degott@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Claudia Guerrini - Claudia.Guerrini@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 GIC/IT/001129 LIFE DICET

Deepening International Cooperation on Emissions Trading

There is a need for enhanced international cooperation to integrate global carbon markets. The EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) plays a world-leading role in this area. LIFE DICET aims to support policymakers at EU and Member State level in their efforts to deepen international cooperation for the development and integration of carbon markets. In particular, the project will help stakeholders acquire knowledge of how carbon markets function, and to communicate and exchange relevant information. The project will establish an expert group, a Carbon Market Policy Dialogue, and a knowledge-sharing platform.

Coordinating beneficiary: European University Institute (EUI)

Contact: Iliana Hristova - ilina.hristova@eui.eu and Stefano.Verde@eui.eu and serena.scarselli@eui.eu

External Monitoring Expert: Ludovico Susani - ludovico.susani@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE17 CCM/PL/000016 LIFE-UrbanWind.PL

Expanding the possibilities for urban wind power generate

Urban wind turbines are an increasingly helpful option for generating clean energy in cities. The project “Urban WindPower Station” will build and test a prototype which uses a self-propulsion system to capture air streams as efficiently as possible. By testing this new urban wind power station (UWPS) in varying locations it will be able to determine the widest possible implementation. Practical testing will be combined with awareness raising on how UWPS can help cut CO2 emissions, particularly in urban areas.

Coordinating beneficiary: Fundacja Wspierania Ekologii ECO FOR LIFE

Contact: Anna Niewodzka - aniewodzka@eco4life.pl

External Monitoring Expert: Mirosław Gwiazdowicz - miroslaw.gwiazdowicz@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

WORKING GROUP M3 – Mitigation and F-gases

LIFE18 CCM/BE/001182 NATURAL HVACR 4 LIFE

Replacing F-gas: demonstration of innovative, integrated HVACR installations with natural refrigerant

F-gases (fluorinated greenhouse gases) are highly potent greenhouse gases (GHG) used in refrigeration. It is a top industry priority to replace F-gases with climate-friendly refrigerants, under the EU F-gas Regulation. The NATURAL HVACR 4 LIFE project will demonstrate the viability of a combined air conditioning and refrigeration system that uses carbon dioxide (CO2) as a natural refrigerant. It aims to remove market barriers for the introduction of CO2-refrigerated air conditioning and refrigeration systems, and to help policymakers define standards and energy labelling schemes by providing information on risk management procedures dealing with flammability and toxicity of natural refrigerants.

Coordinating beneficiary: Daikin Europe N.V.

Contact: Stefan Vandaele - vandaele.s@daikineurope.com

External Monitoring Expert: Raphael Bequet - raphael.bequet@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/FR/001096 LIFE GRID

Greenhouse gas Reduction process via an Innovative high voltage circuit breaker Development

SF6 (sulphur hexafluoride) is an excellent insulator and switching medium for high voltage electrical applications, but it is also an extremely powerful greenhouse gas. The LIFE GRID project aims to replace SF6 in high-voltage circuit breakers with an environmentally-friendly alternative called g3. The technical feasibility has been demonstrated in 145 kV gas-insulated substations (GIS), but the project will demonstrate it at 420 kV, the highest voltage level in Europe, where an alternative solution is still needed. Project partners will prepare for an integrated 420 kV SF6-free GIS solution on the European transmission network, with the support of transmission system operators.

Coordinating beneficiary: Grid Solutions SAS

Contact: Yannick Kieffel - yannick.kieffel@ge.com

External Monitoring Expert: Laura Nocentini - laura.nocentini@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/FR/001155 LIFESF6FREE

An innovative alternative for sulfur hexafluoride, used in energy transmission

LIFESF6FREE will give EU regulators the necessary proof of concept to update rules on Sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), the world's worst-rated gas in terms of global warming potential. Sulfur hexafluoride is used in medium voltage switch gears – part of energy transmission and distribution lines, but regulators have so far been unable to find a recognised alternative. The project will run prototypes in real conditions which replace sulfur hexafluoride with dry air or a gas called HFO with an innovative breaking device.

Coordinating beneficiary: Schneider Electric Industries SAS

Contact: Christophe Preve - christophe.preve@schneider-electric.com and christophe.preve@se.com

External Monitoring Expert: Laura Nocentini - laura.nocentini@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/IT/001106 LIFE ICEGREEN

Greening the ice-cream sector

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) are used in a variety of refrigeration equipment, such as commercial ice cream machines. When released into the atmosphere, HFCs have significant global warming potential and contribute to almost 8% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. Propane is an excellent and economic substitute, with near-zero global warming potential. LIFE ICEGREEN aims to show that using propane as a refrigerant in innovative commercial ice cream machines is technically feasible, safe and commercially viable. This is in line with the EU's F-gas regulation, under which HFCs must be phased out and replaced with alternatives that have near-zero global warming potential.

Coordinating beneficiary: Nemox International srl

Contact: Massimo Zambelli - massimo.zambelli@sigeco.eu

External Monitoring Expert: Paolo Rosa-Clot - paolo.rosa-clot@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 CCM/PL/001100 Refrigerants LIFE Cycle

The demonstrative installation for the separation of refrigerant waste mixtures

HFC, PFC and HC substances replaced fluorinated substances that were more damaging to the ozone layer under the Montreal Protocol, but these alternatives are also potent greenhouse gases restricted by the Kyoto Protocol. The objective of the Refrigerants LIFE cycle project is to limit the emission of fluorinated greenhouse gases into the atmosphere by the refrigeration and air-conditioning sector. The project will implement a demonstration installation for the separation of waste refrigerant mixtures, expand the refrigerant waste collection systems in Czechia and Poland, and increase industry awareness of the environmental impacts of refrigerant emissions.

Coordinating beneficiary: PROZON Fundacja Ochrony Klimatu

Contact: Bartłomiej Caruk - biuro@prozon.org.pl

External Monitoring Expert: Dariusz Kobus - dariusz.kobus@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu

LIFE18 GIC/DE/001104 Ref, Nat! for LIFE

Boosting awareness about fluorinated gases

Emissions of fluorinated refrigerants from refrigeration equipment, air conditioning and heat pumps jeopardises the EU's 2030 climate targets. Use of this equipment is increasing, yet fluorinated refrigerants often have very high global warming potential. Alternatives with low or no global warming potential have been available for many years, but face barriers such as low awareness among end-users and a lack of specific skills among installers. Many equipment manufacturers and several large food retailers have switched to alternatives, but small shop owners in particular lack easy access to reliable and tailored information. The Ref, Nat! for LIFE project aims to build capacity in the equipment distribution chain and raise awareness among end-users about fluorinated gases.

Coordinating beneficiary: Heat GmbH

Contact: Nina Masson and Britta Pätzhold - nina.masson@heat-international.eu and britta.paetzold@heat-international.de

External Monitoring Expert: Thomas Mayer - thomas.mayer@neemo.eu

Project Adviser: Dariusz Urbaniak - Dariusz.Urbaniak@ec.europa.eu