



LIFE Project Number

LIFE14 CAP/LT/000008

Progress Report

Covering the project activities from 01/10/2017 to 31/10/2018

Reporting Date

07/12/2018

LIFE PROJECT NAME

Building LIFE capacities in Lithuania

Acronym: **LIFE LT**

Data Project

Project location:	Lithuania
Project start date:	01/04/2016
Project end date:	31/03/2020
Total budget:	615.486,00 €
EU contribution:	593.886,00 €

Data Beneficiary

Name Beneficiary:	Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
Contact person:	Mrs Sigita Alčauskienė
Postal address:	A. Jakšto st. 4/9, LT-01105, Vilnius, Lithuania
Telephone:	+370 706 63 532
E-mail:	sigita.alcauskiene@am.lt
Project Website:	www.lifeprojektai.lt

Executive summary

The project 'Building LIFE capacities in Lithuania' increased awareness about the LIFE programme substantially during its activity in 2016 and 2017. Therefore, the interest in LIFE presence in seminars and conferences in 2017 and 2018 exceeded the initial plan.

LIFE Info day 2018 attracted 126 participants and was continued by individual discussions with participants on their LIFE ideas the next day. The project team together with the Ministry of Environment organised two interdisciplinary events: the conference about the sustainable mobility in a city and the seminar 'LIFE programme - for the air pollution management in agriculture' where LIFE programme occupied a substantial part of the events and boosted discussions on project ideas in new-for-LIFE sectors. A workshop on LIFE novelties in 2018-2020, a writer workshop for concept notes and two webinars by experienced foreign lecturers increased practical capacity of the applicants to submit quality concept notes.

Business sector was informed about environmental priorities and financing opportunities of LIFE programme in two regional conferences 'Green strategy for business', four regional events of Innovation week 2017, huge conference 'Waste management 2018', two seminars on chemicals management, a seminar at the Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists and other meetings.

Project team provided support to LIFE NCPs by answering requests of potential applicants and beneficiaries, i.e. 93 consultations were provided during the reporting period by the project team. A subcontracted expert consulted applicants on most relevant LIFE priorities and initiated meetings of potential applicants who could develop a transdisciplinary LIFE proposal for CCA later (for the first time in Lithuania). Site visit to Italy, participation in the third Baltic LIFE networking meeting and trainings increased the knowledge of project team and NCP and enabled them to consult and attract new potential applicants from business, and to communicate about LIFE more effectively.

Communication on LIFE programme is mainly focusing on the spread of the results of LIFE projects currently. Project communication augmented during the reporting period: Facebook messages are read by approximately 143 visitors per week, information at the project website is read by 103 persons per week on average. A quarterly LIFE newsletter was started in 2018 that presented all LIFE news. 7 press releases and 2 press articles were issued about LIFE call 2018, LIFE events and LIFE projects' results during the reporting period.

We believe that huge interest in LIFE at events (1070 participants in total) and small number of proposals submitted in 2018 (5 concept notes for ENV and 1 full proposal for CCA) reveal that Lithuanian applicants are reluctant in submitting new kind of concept notes and need more time and methodical assistance to develop a quality application with EU added value for LIFE. Therefore, sectorial meetings (e.g. circular economy) with potential applicants and consultants are planned for 2019. As well as the LIFE Guide that will be launched in December 2018 with integrated material on LIFE project idea, theme, indicators and budget would guide potential LIFE applicants through the preparation and application process.