LIFE+ call for proposal 2007

Component 1 – Nature and Biodiversity

Projects must have at least 25% of their budget earmarked for <u>concrete actions</u>. LIFE+ Biodiversity proposals involving few or no concrete conservation actions will thus generally be considered ineligible.

There are however two exceptions to this rule:

<u>Life+ Biodiversity projects for the development and testing of new biodiversity</u> monitoring indicators do not need to include any concrete conservation actions.

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NEW PART:

The core of such a project must focus on the development and testing of **new biodiversity indicators**. Proposals that, for example, involve much data collection or research, of which only a part is related to the development and testing of new indicators, will not benefit from this exception. Any such project should also provide clear operational guidelines on how these indicators should be applied.

Routine monitoring actions or harmonisation/standardisation of established monitoring techniques/indicators will not benefit from this exception.

Some lessons from the 2007 Call for Proposals:

Some proposals that sought to be exempted from the 25% concrete conservation actions requirement by presenting themselves as developing new biodiversity indicators were rejected because much of the effort concerned data collection / research unrelated to the testing and development of new indicators.

Component 2 – Environment Policy and Governance

In relation to the objectives of the 6th Environmental Action Plan, the <u>specific</u> <u>objectives</u> of LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance call for proposals are as follows:

- (a) to contribute to the development and demonstration of innovative policy approaches, technologies, methods and instruments;
- (b) to contribute to consolidating the knowledge base for the development, assessment, monitoring and evaluation of environmental policy and legislation;
- (c) to support the design and implementation of approaches to monitoring and assessment of the state of the environment and the factors, pressures and responses that impact on it.

<u>Principal objective</u>: "Strategic approaches". Promoting effective implementation and enforcement of EC environmental legislation and improving the knowledge base for environmental policy.

Priority areas of action:

strengthening the knowledge base for policy making and implementation by building a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and supporting the implementation of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security initiative (GMES).

WHAT TO DO NOW ???

- 1. Post-pone the project proposal to the 2009 Call for proposals and in the meantime lobbying with EC for a better suitability of the new Call for proposals
- 2. Change the general point of view of the project: from <u>biodiversity</u> to <u>environmental quality</u> through restructuring and maquillage of the project proposal

According to option 2:

Change of the title:

DivEurope

Biodiversity pattern assessment across Europe: the LTER network as an integrated system for biodiversity monitoring

EnvEurope

Environmental quality assessment and response to drivers and pressures across Europe:

the LTER network as an integrated system for monitoring of ecosystem state

Refining of the structure:

- 1. Relationship and long-term trends as concerns environmental quality indicators (including biodiversity indicators), according to DPSIR approach;
- 2. Selection of the most appropriate and realistic indicators of environmental quality;
- 3. Definition of harmonized methodologies;
- 4. Establishment of a LTER-Europe database, as contribution to SEIS and GMES.