



LIFE and the Circular Economy

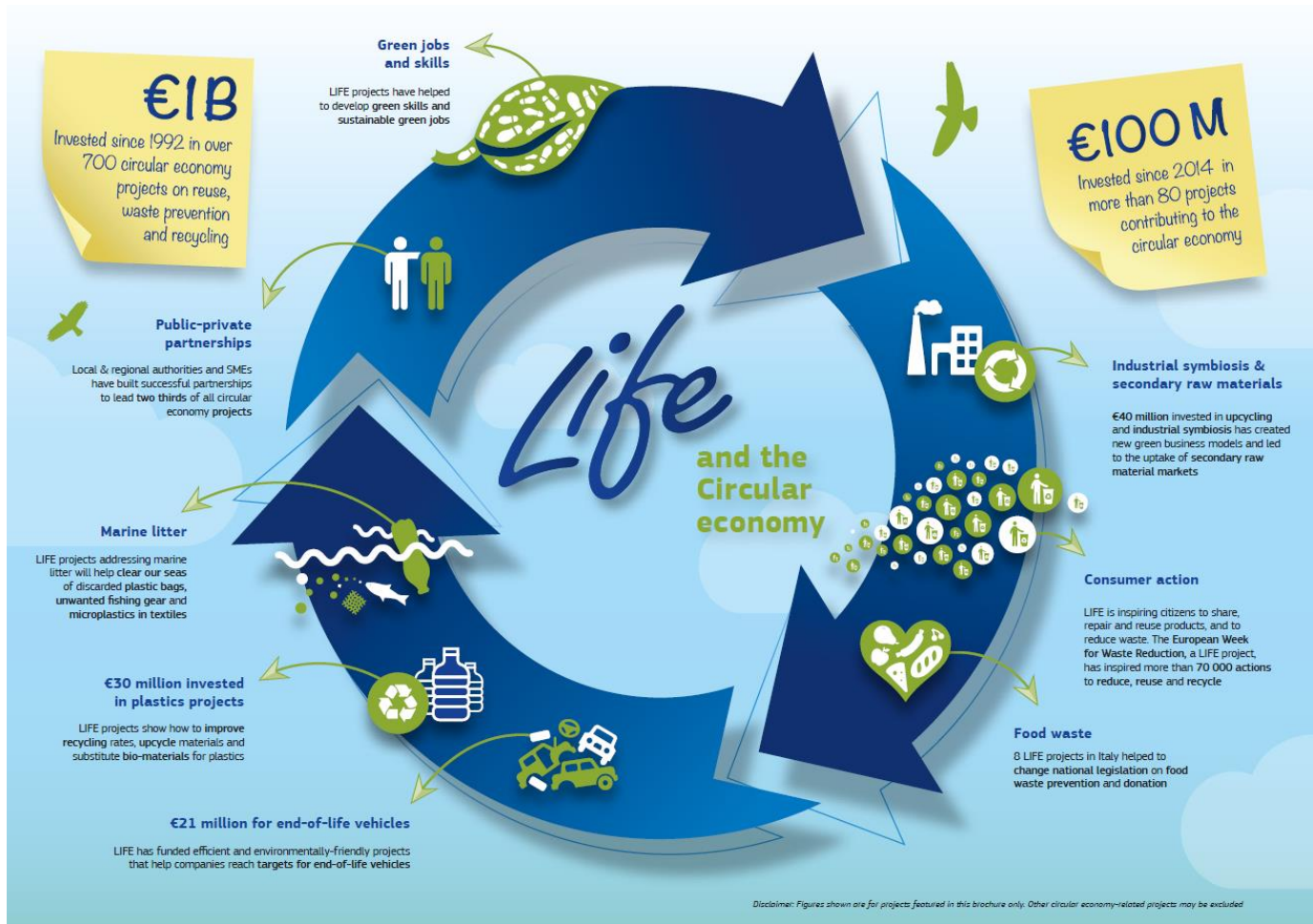
07/11/2017

Jean-Claude Merciol
DG ENV D4
Head of Unit



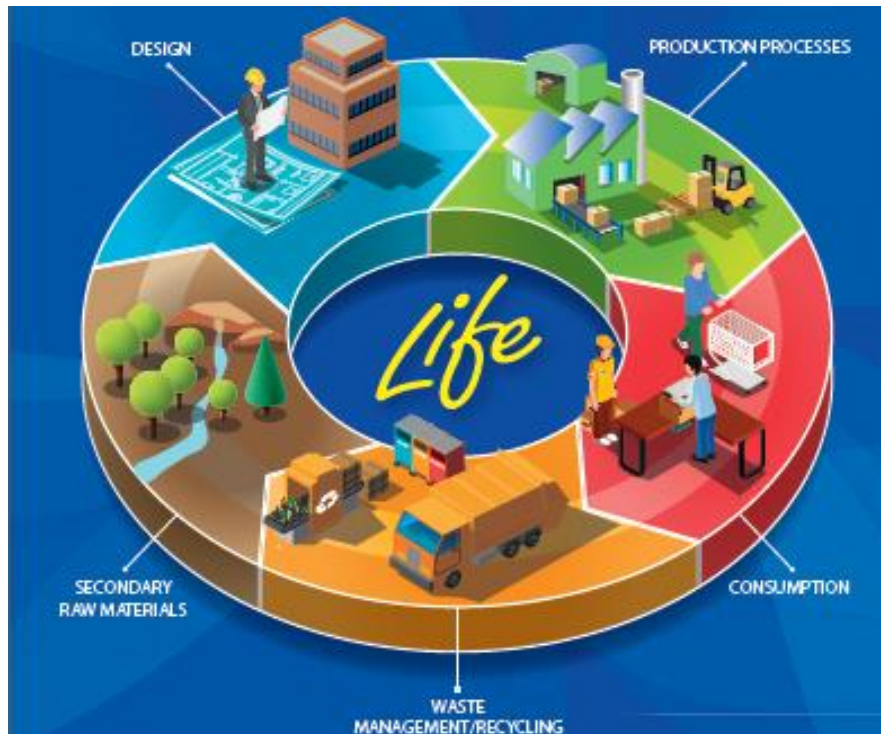
LIFE 2014-2020 – Objectives

- Contribution towards a resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy; protecting and improving the environment; maintaining and improving biodiversity, ecosystems and, in particular, the Natura 2000 network;
- Improving the development, implementation and enforcement of Union environmental and climate policy and legislation;
- Integrating and mainstreaming of environmental and climate objectives into other Union policies;
- Improving environmental and climate governance;
- Implementing of the 7th Environment Action Programme.





LIFE and the circular economy



- Over 700 waste reduction, recycling and re-use projects totalling over €1 billion of overall investment since 1992;
- Over 80 circular-economy related projects funded in 2015 and 2016 (more than 100 million of investment)



2 examples of LIFE projects tackling food waste

Photo: LIFE05 ENV/FIN/000539





The beauty of 'ugly fruit' - Fruta Feia (Portugal)

- FLAW4LIFE - Fruta Feia project aims to change food consumption habits and create an **alternative market for 'ugly' (or less than perfect looking) fruit and vegetables** by changing consumer behaviour and involving local farmers;
- Fruta Feia currently saves **5.6 tonnes/week of food waste** at its five delivery points;
- Fruta Feia is to increase the number of delivery points to 11 and the amount of **food waste saved to 12 tonnes/week.**





LIFE-Food.Waste.StandUp (Lazio, Italy)

- The project's main objective is to raise awareness of surplus food management and food waste prevention among three key actors of the food supply chain: agro-food companies, food retailers and consumers;
- Involve at least 20 000 Italian agro-food companies in the anti-food waste awareness campaign;
- Inform 200 000 food and drink enterprises across the EU about best practices and models for managing and donating surplus food;
- Increase by 10% recovery of food waste from agro-food companies and retailers;
- Increase by 10% the number of new food donors among agro-food companies and retailers.



Integrated projects (IPs)

Definition:

"projects **implementing** on a **large territorial scale**, in particular, regional, multi-regional, national or trans-national scale, **environmental or climate plans or strategies** required by specific Union environmental or climate legislation, developed pursuant to other Union acts or developed by Member States' authorities, primarily in the areas of nature, including, inter alia, Natura 2000 network management, water, waste, air and climate change mitigation and adaptation, while **ensuring involvement of stakeholders** and **promoting the coordination with and mobilisation of at least one other relevant Union, national or private funding source**".

Article 2(d) of the LIFE Regulation



IPs – the concept

Implementation of a Plan or Strategy means:

- Ultimate goal: implementation of all elements/actions of the given plan in a large geographical area/covering a significant number of cities;
- Implementation via the LIFE IP itself and the complementary actions;
- There has to be a longterm commitment to implement the entire plan in the given geographical area by all relevant actors;
- IPs aim at building up capacities of competent authorities and stakeholders to ensure their ability to continue implementing the plan/strategy after the end of the IP.



IPs – Funding

LIFE IP budget: cca EUR 10 million from LIFE – total IP value cca EUR 17 million.

Mobilisation of complementary funds:

- Other sources of funding (EU, national, private) – at least one! - must be mobilised to support the implementation of the complementary measures/actions within the same plan (but outside the IP!)
- Complementarity with other major EU funding sources: ERDF, ESF, CF, EAFRD, EMFF and H2020.



For whom?

- Coordinating beneficiaries: Competent authorities capable of coordinating the IP and the complementary actions;
- Associated beneficiaries: public and/or private commercial and/or non-profit organisation;
- Main stakeholders shall be actively involved in the design and the implementation of the IP;
- IPs help competent authorities to fulfil their legal obligations!



Integrated projects (IPs)

For what?

→ Implementing large scale environmental and climate plans or strategies:

- Water: River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)
- Air: Air Quality Plans

→ **Waste: Waste Management Plans and/or Waste Prevention Programmes**

- Nature: Prioritised Action Frameworks (PAF)
- Climate Change Mitigation (CCM): greenhouse gases strategies
- Climate Change Adaptation (CCA): low carbon economy, climate resilient society



Thank you for your attention!

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/funding/life2017/index.htm>