



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE AGENCY FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (EASME)

Department B LIFE and H2020 Energy, Environment, Resources
LIFE and CIP Eco-innovation

Brussels
EASME.B.3/AS/JCM/PO

Subject: LIFE Programme in COVID-19 pandemic

Dear LIFE Beneficiaries,

In view of the extreme circumstances, we face in the European Union and worldwide during the COVID-19 pandemic, we would like to share with you the following message.

During these times of the pandemic, our lives have significantly changed. Authorities have enacted drastic mitigation strategies like social distancing measures (e.g. closing schools and cancelling mass gatherings). Many people stay and work from home (as we also currently do). We are well aware that these health measures might have affected your lives and families altogether. Please take all necessary measures to protect yourself and your families and avoid unnecessary risks. We do share your concerns and we recognise project implementation difficulties and risks.

We are committed to help you overcome the project implementation difficulties. We are currently developing a Crisis Frequently Asked Questions section in our website to help you easily find answers to many practical problems (such as costs of cancelled trips, costs of necessary health protection equipment e.g. face masks etc).

In addition, over the next few days, our External Monitoring Team experts will contact each LIFE project to discuss on the potential COVID-19 project impacts and get your ideas and suggestions on how to quickly adapt to this crisis. We need to understand how to better support you to implement well your LIFE project even under these extremely adverse conditions.

However, we are not just ready to help you implement better your project with more flexible administrative procedures. Our vision goes beyond that. We work in parallel with other departments of the European Commission and various other key institutions to design and launch new dynamic initiatives to the benefit, among others, of the LIFE beneficiaries.

For us, this is not just a formal duty, it is a strong belief, a necessity for our future. When this health crisis finishes, the economic recovery will have to be fast, healthier, smarter and greener than ever before.

Your projects will certainly help us by contributing to this recovery and providing solutions that will support the full implementation of the Green Deal.

Be well and come back stronger and greener. United we stand.

Yours sincerely,

Angelo SALSI

Jean-Claude MERCIOL

Philip OWEN

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Head of Unit EASME. B.3

Head of Unit ENV.A.4

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