

EN

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Answer given by Mr Hoekstra
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.3.2025)

The EU programme for the environment and climate action (LIFE¹) provides financial support for the functioning of a broad range of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), supporting civil society's participation to policy making in the areas of environment and climate action², in line with the LIFE Regulation and the EU Financial Regulation³.

LIFE operating grants are awarded following a competitive procedure. NGOs applying submit proposals outlining their work programme of activities in policy areas indicated in the LIFE Regulation. This work programme is annexed to their grant agreement. The Commission does not prescribe the specific activities to be carried out by the NGOs in their work programme, neither instructs them to support specific positions. According to the grant agreements, any opinions expressed, and activities carried out remain the sole responsibility of NGOs.

In line with the EU Financial Regulation, the Commission publishes information about all recipients of EU funding in direct management on the Commission's Financial Transparency System website⁴, including funding by recipients qualifying as NGOs, such as T&E.

Transport & Environment (T&E) is registered as a non-governmental organisation in the Transparency Register⁵ under registration number 58744833263-19.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2021/783 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE), and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1293/2013.

² Recital 23 of Regulation (EU) 2021/783 states that "It is, therefore, appropriate that the LIFE Programme support a broad range of NGOs as well as networks of non-profit-making entities that pursue an aim which is of general Union interest, and that are primarily active in the area of the environment or climate action, by awarding, in a competitive and transparent manner, operating grants, in order to help such NGOs, networks and entities, to make effective contributions to Union policy, and to build and strengthen their capacity to become more efficient partners".

³ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (recast), ELI:

<http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/budget/financial-transparency-system/>

⁵ https://transparency-register.europa.eu/index_en