

EN

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Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.8.2025)

The Commission adheres strictly to its transparency obligations. Information about EU fund recipients, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), is published on the Financial Transparency System¹. The Commission proactively shares the objectives and outcomes of funded projects on the Funding & Tenders Portal². Furthermore, interest representatives not representing commercial interests, which would typically include NGOs, are required to report their lobbying and advocacy activities and disclose their main funding sources, including any contributions exceeding EUR 10 000 and representing more than 10% of their total budget, in their registrations in the Transparency Register³.

The work programmes of NGOs and information about their work are publicly available on the internet pages of the respective organisations. The Commission has made available on multiple occasions to supervisory authorities (the European Parliament and the Court of Auditors) grant agreements of funded NGOs according to established working arrangements.

The Commission will also explore the feasibility of incrementally increasing the frequency of publishing annual data updates in the Financial Transparency System, as per European Court of Auditors' recommendation⁴.

Operating grants to NGOs under the EU programme for the environment and climate action (LIFE) are awarded following competitive Calls for proposals⁵ in line with the provisions of the Financial Regulation⁶. Applicants submit proposals that include the description of their work programmes in areas indicated in the LIFE Regulation⁷, which are then annexed to the grant agreement.

The Commission does not prescribe specific activities in the applicant's work-programmes. Applicants act independently and maintain full ownership and liability of their actions. A disclaimer in the LIFE Calls clearly indicates that applicants and eventually beneficiaries of a LIFE grant, remain responsible for the content of their work-programme, views and actions.

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/budget/financial-transparency-system/index.html> ((The annual publications are based on Article 38 of the Financial Regulation whereby data on recipients is not disclosed for very low value contracts below EUR 15 000 and where disclosure risks threatening the rights and freedoms of the persons or entities).

² <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>.

³ https://transparency-register.europa.eu/index_en.

⁴ https://www.eca.europa.eu/Lists/ECARepplies/COM-Replies-SR-2025-11/COM-Replies-SR-2025-11_EN.pdf.

⁵ https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/programmes/life_en.

⁶ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj/eng>.

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0783>.