

# BESTLIFE2030 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals

Full proposal phase

**Consulta Europa Projects & Innovation**

September 2025



Coordinator



Partners

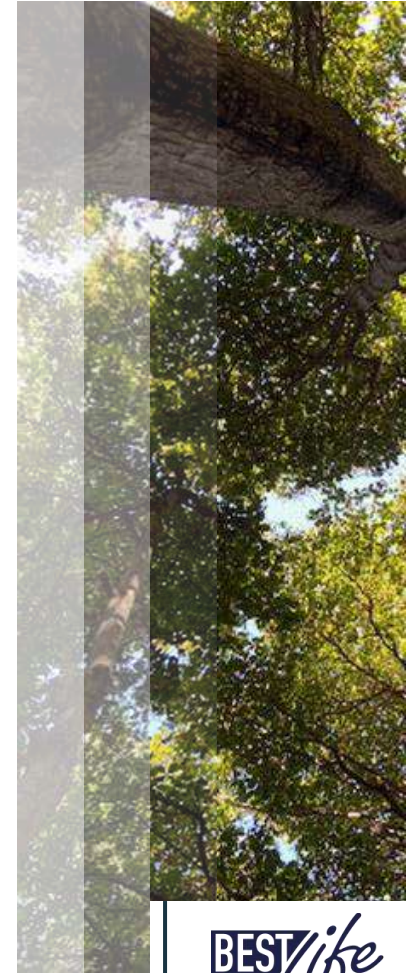
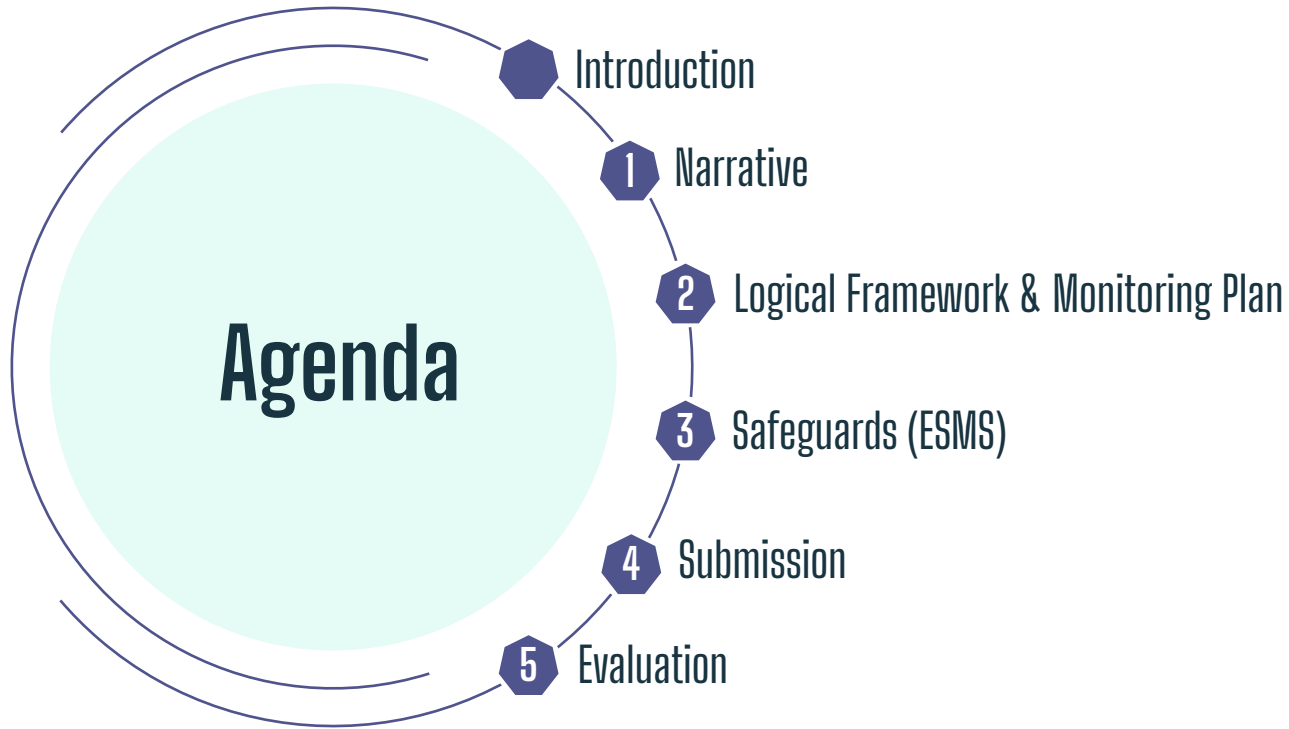


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# Introduction



# Congratulations for your pre-selection!!



Deadline for submission of a full proposal is:

**14<sup>th</sup> November, 14h00 (CET)**

2025



July

Notification letters



31 october

Clarifications deadline



14 november

Submission deadline



April\*

Results notification



May\*

Contract signature

## Full proposal stage

- Develop and enhance your proposal during the second stage.
- Review the Guidelines for Applicants once more.
- Incorporate recommendations from your notification letter into your full proposal.

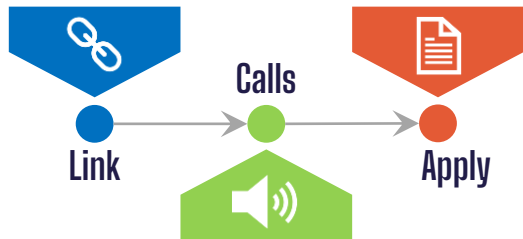


## Procedure

- Go to the BESTLIFE2030 portal: <https://speciesgrants.iucn.org>
- Complete all sections online.
- Upload documents and save your application at each stage.
- Double-check entries and documents before submission.

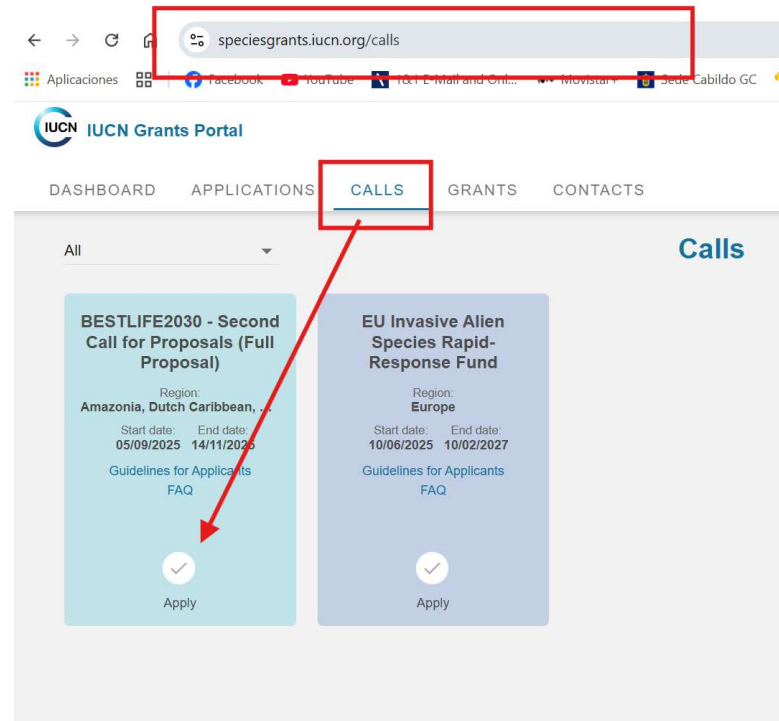
\* Provisional date

# Portal access



A

- Go to <https://speciesgrants.iucn.org/calls>, log in with your current username and password, and follow the sequence as shown on this slide.

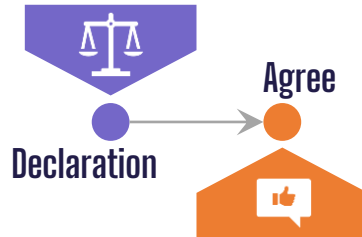




# Portal access

B

- When you click “Apply”, you will be prompted with an applicant declaration.
- Once you confirm the terms, you will have access to the proposal submission interface you are already familiar with.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "APPLICANT DECLARATION" in a blue oval at the top. Below the title is a paragraph: "The applicant, whether a natural person or a legal entity, represented by the undersigned, being the authorised signatory of the applicant, in the context of the present Call for Proposals/Call for Concept Notes, hereby declares that:". This is followed by a list of 15 bullet points detailing the applicant's commitments and disqualifying conditions. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "DISAGREE" and "AGREE", with the "AGREE" button circled in red.

**APPLICANT DECLARATION**

The applicant, whether a natural person or a legal entity, represented by the undersigned, being the authorised signatory of the applicant, in the context of the present Call for Proposals/Call for Concept Notes, hereby declares that:

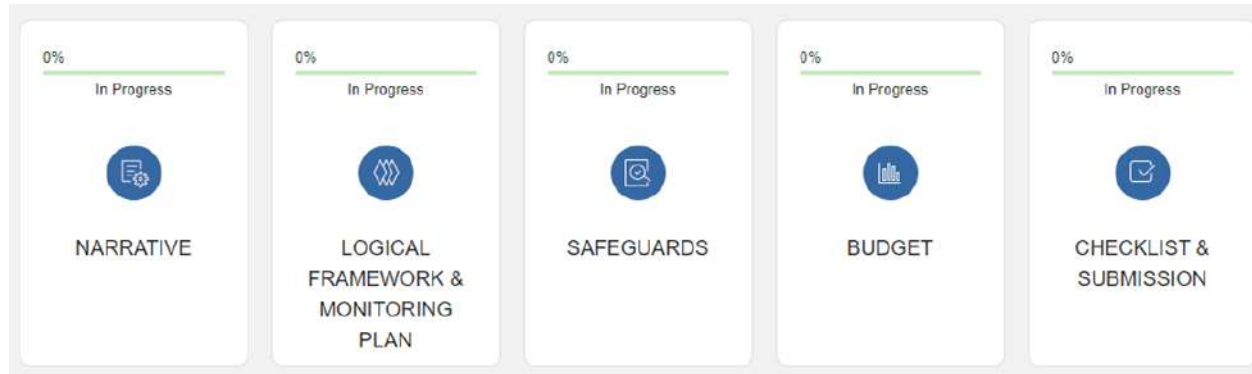
- the applicant has sufficient financial management capacity to successfully carry out the proposed action or work programme;
- the applicant certifies the legal statutes of the applicant as reported in the application;
- the applicant has the professional competences and qualifications specified in the Guidelines for Applicants;
- the applicant undertakes to comply with the principles of good partnership practice;
- the applicant is directly responsible for the preparation, management and implementation of the project and is not acting as an intermediary;
- the applicant respects and protects intellectual property rights related to the project, its outputs, and any third-party materials;
- the applicant commits to providing regular progress updates, financial reports, and final project evaluations to the funding entity;
- the applicant is not in any of the situations, which are listed below excluding them from participating in contracts. Furthermore, it is recognized and accepted that if the applicant participates in spite of being in any of these situations, they may be excluded from other contracts:
  - they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
  - they, or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them, have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment of a competent authority of the country of the contracting authority, of the country in which they are established and of the country where the contract is to be performed, which has the force of res judicata (i.e. against which no appeal is possible);
  - they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify, including by decisions of international organizations;
  - they are not in compliance with their obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;
  - they, or persons having powers of representation, decision making or control over them, have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of res judicata for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organization, money laundering or any other illegal activity;
- the applicant is eligible in accordance with the criteria set out in the Guidelines for Applicants;
- the applicant complies with any additional requirements as stated in the Call for Proposals/Call for Concept Notes, including, but not limited to:
  - having a code of ethics that guides the organization's decision-making and actions;
  - establishing a whistleblower policy to encourage the reporting of any misconduct or unethical behaviour within the organization;
  - ensuring transparent financial management and accountability;
  - maintaining a non-discrimination policy to promote inclusivity and diversity in the organization;
  - adopting environmentally sustainable practices in the organization's operations;
  - providing a safe and healthy working environment for employees and volunteers;

**DISAGREE** **AGREE**

# Portal access

C

- Should you wish to come back to the application you start, use this link: <https://speciesgrants.iucn.org/dashboard> (consider bookmarking it in your browser for easy access);
- Five sections to complete overall.



- Adopt a **direct** style, clear and concise (avoid “literary” sentences); use bullet points where relevant
- Present **concrete and precise information**, with figures when necessary
- Place the information in the right section and **avoid repeating yourself**
- **Complete all sections of the forms**
- Avoid general comments; focus the presentation on **your project**, its purpose, results, and impact
- **Structure your actions**; avoid anything that could create uncertainty
- Use diagrams, graphs, tables, illustrations, maps, etc (these can be included in the annexes)



# 1. Narrative







### Lead partner

The **Lead Partner section** includes important details such as [contact details](#) and [key project staff](#), as well as the [authorized signatory of the grant agreement](#), essential for the successful execution of the project.



### Other partner information

This section relates to the involvement of partners in the project, requiring the provision of [project partners' names](#).



### Project overview

It outlines the [project's title](#), its [duration](#) (up to 36 months), automatic calculation of [project funds](#) upon completion of the budget section, clarification of [co-funding sources](#), [region](#), [country/territory](#), and provides a location map upload option.



## Project description

It includes the identification of **stakeholders** and **beneficiaries**, **rationale (\*)** for addressing conservation concerns within the socio-economic context, details on **target species** and **habitats**, **detailed project timeline (\*\*)**, overall objective, **regional relevance** (incl. **BEST ecosystem profile**), **inclusive engagement and equity**, approach and **activities** (**who does what**), assumptions and risks with mitigation strategies, **exit strategy (\*)** for sustaining project results, and a **communication plan** for effective dissemination of information (more on this on next slide).

## Regional relevance



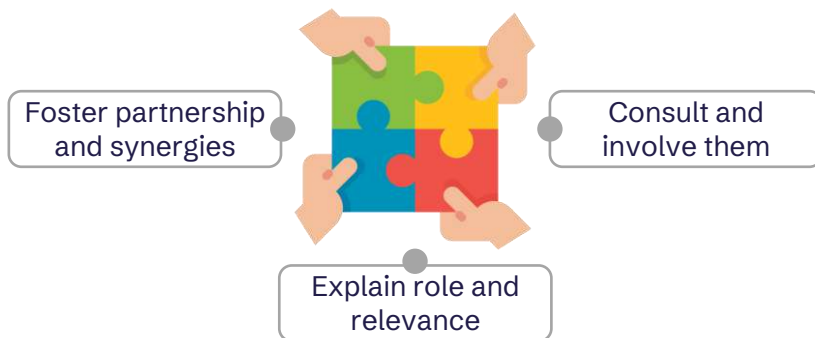
Think about the bigger picture and political coherence



(\*) Incl. PANORAMA Solutions knowledge bank (<https://panorama.solutions/en>)

(\*\*) Template made available on the project website.

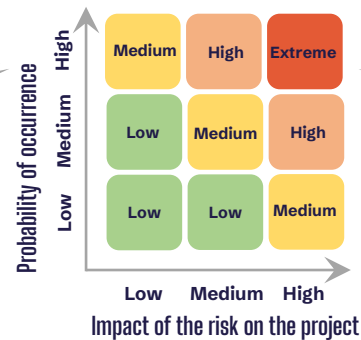
## Stakeholders & Beneficiaries



## Risks



External factors may impact project implementation and results



Plan mitigation measures and develop contingency plans



## Communication close-up

The communication plan is part of the Project description section. If you **prefer, you can upload a separate file (e.g. pdf, ppt).**

Make sure your communication plan answers the following questions:

1. What is the project about and what are its ultimate goals? What are the communication objectives?
2. What are the key messages?
3. Who are the target audiences?
4. What are the communication channels?
5. How often will you communicate on each channel?
6. What is your visual identity?
7. What is your budget?
8. What are your key performance indicators?



## 2. Logical Framework & Monitoring Plan





# 2.1 Logical Framework

Here is the **Logical Framework** table you will need to use to input your project's **specific objectives**, coupled with corresponding **results** and **activities** for each specific objective. Once saved, the data will be automatically transferred to the **Project Monitoring Plan** and **Project Timeline** sections.

The screenshot shows the 'IUCN Grants Portal' interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Application', 'Back', and icons for document, info, and chat. Below this is a horizontal menu with 'NARRATIVE', 'LOGICAL FRAMEWORK & MONITORING PLAN' (selected), 'SAFEGUARDS', 'BUDGET', and 'CHECKLIST & SUBMISSION'. On the left, a sidebar lists 'Logical framework', 'Project monitoring plan', and 'Project timeline'. The main area is titled 'LOGICAL FRAMEWORK' and contains a table with three columns: 'Specific Objectives', 'Results', and 'Activities'. The first row shows 'SO1' under Specific Objectives, 'R1.1' under Results, and 'A1.1.1' under Activities. Below each column are 'Add' buttons: 'Add Specific Objective', 'Add Result', and 'Add Activity'. The table is outlined with dashed lines in yellow, green, and red corresponding to the column headers.

A tool for monitoring and evaluating performance. It tracks actual results against planned objectives using indicators, baselines, and targets. It outlines the relationship between project processes (activities) and results (outcomes and impact), providing a simplified description of how the project aims to deliver change.

They are clear, measurable goals that the project aims to achieve within a defined timeframe.

They outline the desired project outcomes, i.e. changes and beneficiaries.

They are specific actions that the project will take to achieve its objectives.

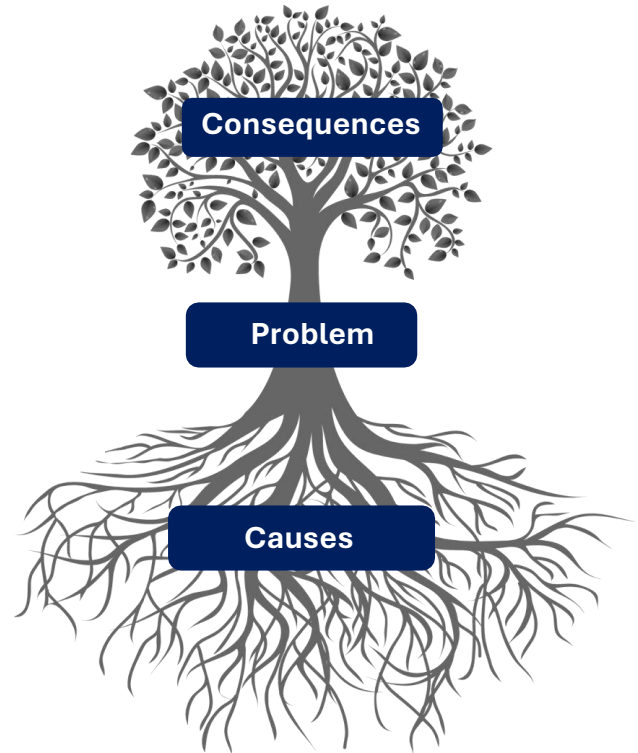
When designing projects, it is best practice to review past successful approaches and incorporate lessons learned while considering the current context. Log frames are essential in monitoring and reporting results from the project level to the BESTLIFE2030 programme level.

## 2.1 Logical Framework

Conséquences

**Methodological tool allowing the analysis of a situation and visualization of:**

- What is happening (main problem)
- Why it happens (causes or origins)
- How it is expressed (consequences, effects or impacts)
- The links between each phenomenon



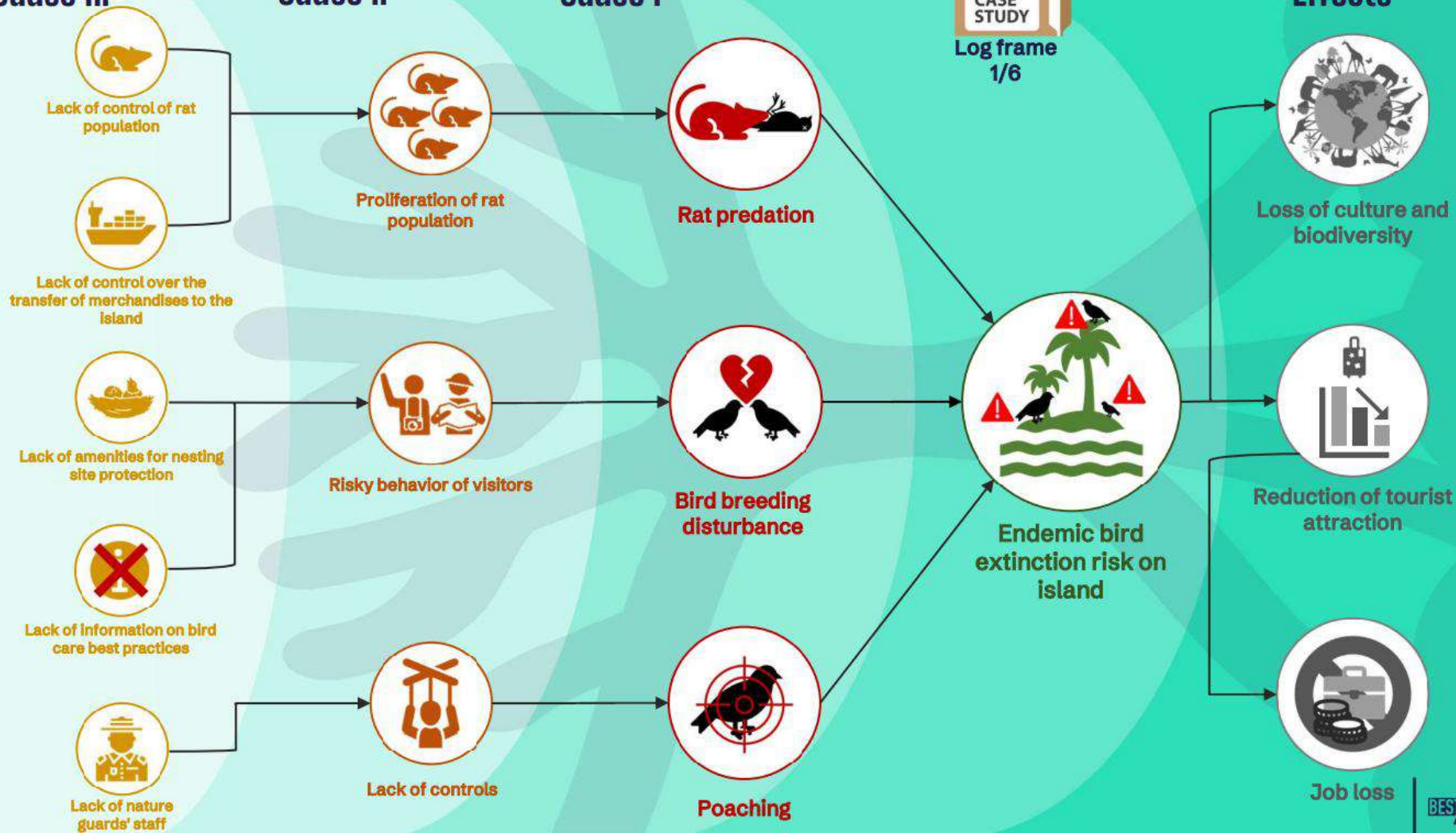
## Cause III

## Cause II

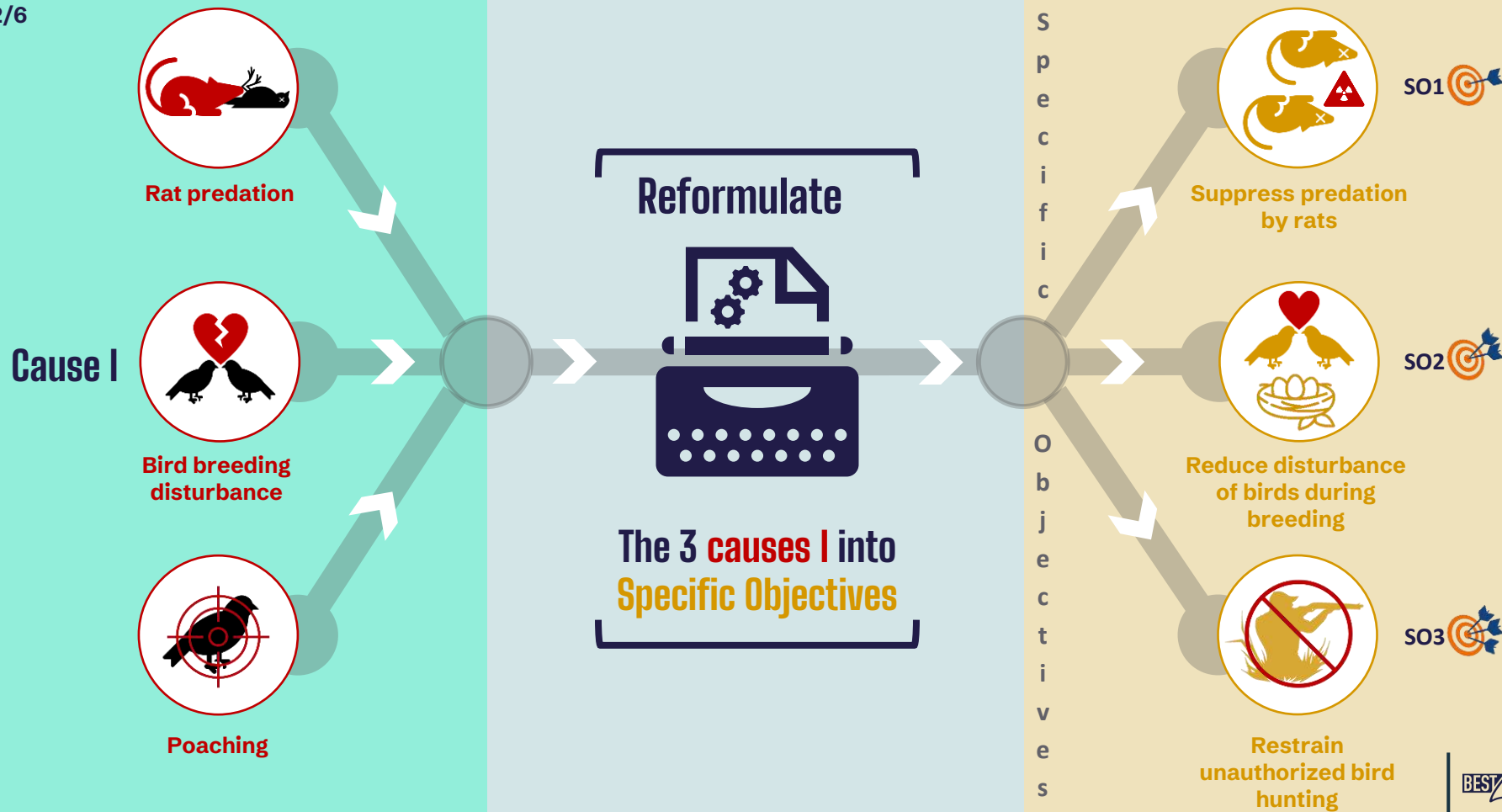
## Cause I

CASE  
STUDY  
Log frame  
1/6

## Effects

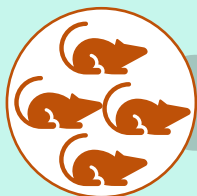


## What are the specific objectives of my project?





## What are the expected results of my project?

Cause  
IIProliferation of rat  
populationRisky behavior of  
visitors

Lack of controls

Reformulate

The 3 **causes II**  
into  
**Expected Results**E  
x  
p  
e  
c  
t  
e  
d

R1.1

The rats have  
permanently  
disappeared from the  
island

R2.1

Visit to the island do  
not impact the birds

R3.1

Effective control measures  
implemented to halt  
poachingR  
e  
s  
u  
l  
t  
s

What activities will be put in place to achieve the results?

### Cause III



Lack of control of rat population



Lack of control over the transfer of merchandise to the island



Lack of amenities for nesting site protection

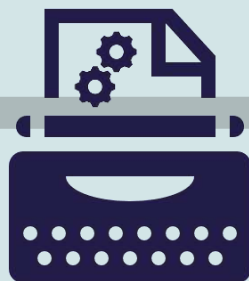


Lack of information on bird care best practices



Lack of nature guards' staff

Reformulate



The 5 causes III into  
Activities

P  
r  
o  
j  
e  
c  
t

A  
c  
t  
i  
v  
i  
t  
i  
e  
s



Implementation of an eradication campaign

A1.1.1



Establishment of a phytosanitary control unit at the embarkation quay towards the island

A1.1.2



Installation of wooden barriers around nesting sites

A2.1.1



Production and distribution of a documentary for the passenger boat

A2.1.2



Recruitment and deployment of additional rangers

A3.1.1



## LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Project Overall Objective:

Specific Objectives	Results	Activities
SO1 Suppress predation by rats	R1.1 The rats have permanently disappeared from the island	A1.1.1 Implementation of an eradication campaign A1.1.2 Establishment of a phytosanitary control unit at the embarkation quay towards the island
	<a href="#">Add Results</a>	<a href="#">Add Activity</a>
SO2 Reduce disturbance of birds during breeding	R2.1 Visit to the island do not impact the birds	A2.1.1 Installation of wooden barriers around nesting sites A2.1.2 Production and distribution of a documentary for the passenger boat
	<a href="#">Add Results</a>	<a href="#">Add Activity</a>
SO3 Deter unauthorized bird hunting	R3.1 Effective control measures implemented to halt poaching	A3.1.1 Recruitment and deployment of additional rangers
		<a href="#">Add Activity</a>

## How do I know and show that my results have been achieved?



Rat Free

The rats have permanently disappeared from the island

To know if R1.1 result has been achieved, you can check that . . .



Rat number is equal to 0

And to perform these checks, you can . . .



Carry out a counting campaign x months after eradication

Plan and budget verifications for project implementation as needed.



Visit to the island do not impact the birds

To know if R2.1 result has been achieved, you can check that . . .



At least 3/4 of visitors know good practices

And to perform these checks, you can . . .



Conduct a survey of visitors



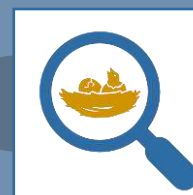
Effective control measures implemented to halt poaching

To know if R3.1 result has been achieved, you can check that . . .



The nests are not trampled

And to perform these checks, you can . . .



Make several visits to the nests



## 2.2 Monitoring Plan (1/4)

NARRATIVE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK & MONITORING PLAN SAFEGUARDS BUDGET CHECKLIST & SUBMISSION

Previous Continue

PROJECT MONITORING PLAN

Logical framework  
Project monitoring plan  
Project timeline

Indicators

Frequency

Baseline

Target

Reporting Period ☐ N/A

It is linked to the previous Logical framework section. You must select and detail at least one indicator per specific objective.

Filled in automatically - this means you will need to update the progress ahead of each reporting period.

Insert baseline value if you know it. If not, tick the "N/A" box. (\*)

Insert target value (Mandatory).

Note that your project needs to report on **at least one biodiversity indicator**.

(\*) Once selected for funding, grantees will need to provide baseline values for certain indicators, as applicable (especially for biodiversity), and detail how the values were obtained.

## 2.2 Monitoring Plan (2/4)

To make your selection, follow the sequence shown here:

Click “Add indicator” button

1

Remain in “SELECT INDICATOR(S)” section

2

The screenshot displays the 'LOGICAL FRAMEWORK & MONITORING PLAN' section of a software interface. A modal window titled 'Choose Indicator(s)' is open, showing a list of indicators (BEST1 through BEST9) with checkboxes. A red dashed line with numbered callouts (1-4) indicates the sequence of actions: 1. Click the 'Add Indicator' button at the bottom of the main screen. 2. Remain in the 'SELECT INDICATOR(S)' section of the modal. 3. Check as many indicator boxes as needed. 4. Click the 'Select' button at the bottom of the modal. The background shows a project framework table with columns for Narrative, Logical Framework & Monitoring Plan, Safeguards, Budget, and Checklist & Submission. The current row is for 'BEST21. Climate vulnerability - humans: No. of people less vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change due to climate adaptation measures'.

Check as many boxes as needed

3

When done, click the “Select” button

4

Full list of indicators (and what to do to create one of your own) shown on next slides.

## 2.2 Monitoring Plan (3/4) -Indicators

**BEST1. Biodiversity:** No. of plant species benefiting from conservation action

**BEST2. Biodiversity:** No. of animal species benefiting from conservation action

**BEST3. Biodiversity:** Area of mangrove habitat where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed (km2)

**BEST4. Biodiversity:** Area of savanna habitat where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed (km2)

**BEST5. Biodiversity:** Area of coral reef habitat where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed (km2)

**BEST6. Biodiversity:** Area of rhodolith bed habitat where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed (km2)

**BEST7. Biodiversity:** (Reduction in) area occupied by invasive alien species (km2)

**BEST8. Biodiversity:** No. of invasive alien species impacted (animal)

**BEST9. Biodiversity:** No. of invasive alien species impacted (plant)

**BEST10. Biodiversity:** Habitats - area of tropical forest restored (km2)

**BEST11. Enabling conditions:** No. of collaborations forged and/or enforced

**BEST12. Enabling conditions:** No. of regulations, strategies or protocols with conservation provisions revamped, enacted or amended

**BEST13. Outreach:** No. of people trained

**BEST14. Outreach:** No. of volunteers involved in project activities

**BEST15. Outreach:** No. of people reached by awareness activities (in person)

**BEST16. Outreach:** No. of people reached via media and social networks (online)

**BEST17. Outreach:** No. of people from vulnerable groups benefiting from project activities

**BEST18. Employment:** No. of jobs created

**BEST19. Protected areas:** Percentage increase in area of protected and conserved areas

**BEST20. Protected areas:** No. of certified sites/areas (Green List)

**BEST21. Climate vulnerability - humans:** No. of people less vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change due to climate adaptation measures



**At least one biodiversity indicator is mandatory**

## 2.2 Monitoring Plan (4/4) – Indicators

Should you wish to create a new indicator (e.g. if your target habitat is not already listed), follow the sequence below:

Once you click the “Add Indicator” button **1**, go to the “ADD CUSTOM INDICATOR” section, where you will see 4 fields:

- “**Code**” – pre-filled, stay as is;
- “**Description**” – follow the same structure as the other indicators: start with the type of indicator, then add specifics (e.g. *Biodiversity: Area of \_ \_ \_ \_ habitat where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed (km2)*;
- “**Frequency**” – choose “Reporting period”;
- “**Data type**” – choose “Numeric” or “Text” or “Yes/No”, as appropriate.

When done, click the “Add” button.

The screenshot displays the 'LOGICAL FRAMEWORK & MONITORING PLAN' section of the BEST Life 2030 interface. A modal dialog titled 'Choose Indicator(s)' is open, showing a table with columns for 'Code', 'Description', 'Frequency', and 'Data Type'. The 'ADD CUSTOM INDICATOR' button is highlighted with a red box and a '2' callout. Below the table, an 'Add' button is highlighted with a red box and a '3' callout. In the background, the 'Add Indicator' button on the main interface is highlighted with a red box and a '1' callout. A red line connects these three elements in sequence, indicating the workflow. The background interface also shows a list of existing indicators like BEST13, BEST14, and BEST16.



## 2.3 Project Timeline

NARRATIVE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK & MONITORING PLAN SAFEGUARDS BUDGET CHECKLIST & SUBMISSION

PROJECT TIMELINE

Previous Continue

Logical framework  
Project monitoring plan  
Project timeline

Specific Objectives	Activities	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3	
		1st Half	2nd Half	1st Half	2nd Half	1st Half	2nd Half
SO1	A1.1.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A1.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A1.1.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	A1.2.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	A1.2.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

In this section you simply need to check the boxes corresponding to the periods during which your activities will be implemented. Note that a more detailed timeline is requested in the Narrative – Project description section (template to be provided by the Regional Hubs).

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a coastal region. In the foreground, there are rolling green hills with patches of low-lying vegetation. A small, irregularly shaped blue lake sits in a valley. To the left, the hills slope down towards a bright blue ocean under a clear sky. The horizon is visible in the distance.

### 3. Safeguards (ESMS)

### **The ESMS (Environment and Social Management System)**

is a questionnaire that serves as a tool to assess environmental and social risks associated with project proposals.

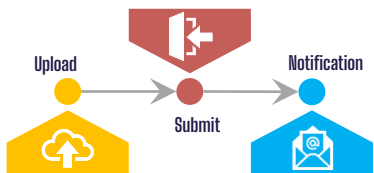
Specific instructions will be provided as appropriate based on the outcome of the Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) screening

If no ESMS standard was triggered, simply write 'N/A' in this portal section





## 4. Submission



- Use this section to upload any additional documents you may wish to include in your application:
  - Simply click the “Upload document” button and select your file (for multiple files, consider grouping them into a single archive).
- Once finished, click the “Submit” button.
- You will receive an automatic email notification confirming your submission (if that is not the case, please let us know right away).



**To avoid technical issues and potential complications, it's best not to wait until the last day!**



# SUMMARY OF PIECES TO INCLUDE IN YOUR FULL PROPOSAL

## Within the platform:

- Detailed project description: methodology used, indicative timeline, milestones, partnerships, expected results, communication
- Logical framework: definition of objectives, activities and results, linked with monitoring indicators and deliverables
- Detailed project budget (**Forecast budget for the 1st project period because it will be your advance payment!**)

## Documents to attach:

- **CVs** of all persons involved in the project
- **Project map** (strongly recommended)
- **Regulatory authorisations** required for project implementation if it is available
- **Letters of support** from project partners (very important!)
- **Communication Plan**
- Supporting documents for costs if using the Simplified Cost Option (SCO)
- Contracts, payslips and job descriptions related to the project if relevant

# 5. Evaluation



Criteria	Maximum score	Awarded score	Assessor comments
<b>1) Relevance and effectiveness (max 30 points)</b>			
1.1. Does the project clearly indicate how it is not only consistent with the <b>objectives of BESTLIFE2030</b> , but also <b>how it will concretely contribute to them</b> ?	10		
1.2. Does the project clearly indicate how <b>tangible and measurable impacts will be achieved during the life of the project</b> ?	10		
1.3. Does the project explain its added value to support local, regional and national policies and strategies? Is it implemented in Key Biodiversity Areas / Protected and Conserved Areas? Does it use the BEST regional ecosystem profiles?	10		
<b>2) Concept and methodology (max 25 points)</b>			
2.1. Is the proposed approach well-articulated, <b>realistic and achievable</b> ?	5		
2.2. Are the <b>activities well defined and appropriate</b> to achieve the expected results?	10		
2.3. Does the project clearly identify <b>risks</b> and provide <b>solutions</b> to mitigate/overcome them? <i>If applicable, this point will also take into account the response of the ESMS questionnaire.</i>	5		
2.4 Does the project's <b>logical framework</b> contain <b>objectively verifiable indicators</b> to measure the results of the actions, in terms of objectives and results?	5		
<b>3) Partnerships and synergies (max 15 points)</b>			
3.1. Have all the <b>stakeholders</b> been identified, have they been given an appropriate role in the project in line with their skills? Does the project promote intra-territorial cooperation and synergies with other existing projects?	10		
3.2. Does the project <b>support capacity building</b> , the sharing of experiences and/ or does it promote local partnerships? Does the project allow complementarity with other projects?	5		
<b>4) Budget and financial consistency (max 15 points)</b>			
4.1. Are the activities properly reflected in the budget?	5		
4.2. Is the budget adequate: is the ratio between the estimated costs and the expected results satisfactory?	10		
<b>5) Added value and sustainability (max 15 points)</b>			
5.1. Is there a clear approach to ensure the sustainability of activities beyond the project and encourage their duplication? Is there an 'exit plan'?	5		
5.2. Does the project include <b>dissemination and communication</b> activities?	5		
5.3. Does the project integrate elements such as the promotion of <b>gender quality, equal opportunities, participation of people with disabilities and young people, minority rights</b> ?	5		
<b>Total Threshold: 65</b>	<b>100</b>		

Similarly, to the concept note phase, your proposal will be evaluated by the same two experts, who will use a scoring grid consisting of 14 questions, available in the Guidelines for Applicants

**Maximum score = 100**

**Threshold = 65**

Make sure you **address all comments** received after the concept note phase before you submit your full proposal.





## 6. Resources





- **Regional Ecosystem Profiles**

[https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/best-initiative-supporting-biodiversity-outermost-regions-and-overseas-countries-and-territories\\_en?prefLang=fr](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/best-initiative-supporting-biodiversity-outermost-regions-and-overseas-countries-and-territories_en?prefLang=fr)

- **Macaronesian Regional Ecosystem Profile:**

<https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/3f466d71-92a7-49eb-9c63-6cb0fadf29dc/library/62210c33-31e4-4e5c-8ad8-0f783d75f2c8/details?download=true>

- **EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030**

[https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/biodiversity-strategy-2030_en)

- **LIFE Project database**

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/search>

- **Projects previously funded under the BEST Initiative**

Outermost Regions: <https://www.life4best.org/en/projects/>

Overseas Countries and Territories: <https://www.best2plus.org/projects/>

- **PANORAMA: Solutions for a Healthy Planet**

<https://panorama.solutions/en>

# GENERAL TIPS

- The key element for new BESTLIFE2030 proposals is to **ensure that the projects put forward specific conservation actions with measurable conservation impacts** in terms of species or habitat conservation.
- **Plan robust communication plan** and remember to foresee communication activities within your Work Plan.
- **Plan for replication / scalability** - how the activities and results can be replicated to other islands / regions which might share similar challenges.
- **Provide comprehensive risk analysis** with preventive / mitigation measures.
- **Identify pertinent stakeholders.**
- **We recommend attaching letters of support**, especially if in your application you state that regional agencies/authorities will be willing to uptake results/strategies/policies stemming from your project, or you state your project outcomes might be able to amend current conservation legislation. This will also make the sustainability and replication plan more credible.
- Analyse the **comments made during the evaluation of your concept note!** You Will find very useful tips to improve your proposal! (You Will find them in your notification letter)

# TIPS

## SECTION REGIONAL RELEVANCE

### 1/ POSITION THE PROJECT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE WITHIN A EUROPEAN, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FRAMEWORK

Look for the **policies** and **strategic documents** to which your project contributes: this demonstrates why your project is worth funding!

Do not simply list them, but **demonstrate how the project will contribute to their implementation:**

- The project responds to the objectives and priorities of the targeted programme
- The project implements (and/or improves) these policies “...”
- The project helps implement other European policies: employment, economy...
- The project builds on the results of another European project

*For example, the **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030**: protection of natural areas (30% of land and seas by 2030), biodiversity restoration (promote organic farming and biodiversity in agricultural landscapes, halt the decline of pollinators, restore free-flowing rivers over 25,000 km of waterways, plant 3 billion trees, etc.)*

**IMPORTANT: link your project to the Macaronesian Regional Ecosystem Profile !!!**

# TIPS

## SECTION PROJECT RATIONALE

### 2/ SHOW THE COMPLEMENTARITY OF YOUR PROJECT

Explain how your project is complementary to **actions/projects carried out at regional, national and/or international levels**.

Show here how your project is **not redundant** with actions already carried out elsewhere, but rather how the combination of these different actions has a **positive multiplier effect** and is relevant:

- Identify **other projects and initiatives** on the subject
- Refer to **previous projects** on which you build, explain how your project relies on the results of these project(s)
- These do not necessarily have to be projects that you yourself have led!

#### Resources:

LIFE projects database: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/search>

Projects previously funded under the BEST initiative: <https://bestlife2030.org/fr/nos-projets-plan/>



# TIPS

## SECTION EXIT STRATEGY

### 3/ ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF PROJECT RESULTS

A sustainable project is one that has a **long-term impact**, with key actions continuing **beyond the grant period**:

- ✓ How will the project's impact be maintained over time?
- ✓ Through which actions carried out during the project, and with which actors?
- ✓ Which actions will need to be continued?
- ✓ How will they be pursued, and with what resources (material, human, financial)?

#### **Guarantees of sustainability:**

Regulatory and legislative tools (protection status, urban planning documents)

Maintenance of equipment and dedicated positions after the end of the project, through financial resources provided by certain partners (which ones? letter of commitment?)

*Examples of actions carried out during the project: staff training, installation of on-site information panels, legal or contractual protection of a natural area...*

# TIPS

## SECTION REGIONAL RELEVANCE AND ALIGNMENT WITH POLICIES

### 4/ INCLUDE IUCN TOOLS

Refer to the Regional Ecosystem Profiles developed as part of a participatory approach with local and regional stakeholders in the 7 EU Overseas Regions (2016):

- Review of the current state of biodiversity, habitats, and the threats affecting them
- Socio-economic and political context, analysis of ongoing conservation activities
- Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA)

### **Build your project on good practices listed on the PANORAMA platform**

(<https://panorama.solutions/>), which aims to document and promote inspiring and replicable examples of solutions on a wide range of conservation topics:

- Thematic portals
- Learn how others have addressed the same problems around the world
- Encourage reflection and the learning of methods whose impacts have been demonstrated

# TIPS

## SECTION INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT AND EQUITY

### 5/ PROMOTE INCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT AND EQUITY

An inclusive project is one that ensures **equal participation and equitable access to benefits** for all relevant groups, especially underrepresented or vulnerable populations:

- How will your project involve **women, youth, persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples, or other minorities**?
- Which **strategies and activities** will you use to encourage their active participation?
- How will your project promote **gender equality and equal opportunities**?
- What measures will you take to respect and protect **human rights** throughout the project lifecycle?

#### **Guarantees of inclusiveness:**

- Specific outreach **strategies to involve vulnerable groups**
- Dedicated **activities designed with and for target populations**
- Mechanisms **to ensure voices of minorities are considered in decision-making**
- Monitoring indicators to track inclusivity and equity results

*Examples of actions carried out during the project: women and youth leadership training, creation of accessible communication materials, participatory workshops with Indigenous communities, or other minorities, inclusion of disability-friendly project infrastructure...*



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