

**Subject: [ZEW] Connecting with LIFE consortiums in your country: electronic waste, greening urban areas, Building renovation of social housing and emergency shelters**

I work for Hétis, a higher education and training institute in the social and medico-social sector in the south of France, experienced in Eu funding. Increasingly, the fields of social support and sustainable development are becoming intrinsically linked: energy poverty among the most vulnerable, climate adaptation of housing for precarious populations, social and environmental third places, etc.

We would like to ask for your support in connecting us with Life+ consortiums currently being formed in your country for the 2025 call, on two specific topics:

**1) Circular Economy of electronic waste**

Hétis is a partner in a project called *La Banque du Numérique* (The Digital Bank), inspired by the concept of food banks. The aim of this association is to combat digital exclusion and illiteracy by setting up a coordinated system (network and tools) to identify needs and available resources, and to provide refurbished equipment, internet access, and support and training solutions.

The Digital Bank carries out the following activities:

**a) Territorial Diagnostics:**

A cartographic overview of digital exclusion and a constantly updated geolocated directory of digital support systems.

**b) Collection:**

Collecting donated digital equipment from individuals and professionals, and receiving requests (for equipment and support) submitted by field actors who identify people facing digital exclusion or illiteracy.

**c) Processing:**

Dismantling and recycling or refurbishing collected equipment.

**d) Matching:**

Connecting available resources (equipment and support services) with the needs expressed on the Digital Bank platform.

**e) Distribution:**

Providing equipment and/or facilitating access to support services through the original requester.

This project has thus developed an innovative approach to electronic waste collection and redistribution for the benefit of the most vulnerable populations. We believe this initiative could serve as an experimental platform, mobilizing a wide network of stakeholders organized along a clear value chain across multiple territories, for a Life+ project focusing on the circular economy of electronic waste or territorial governance in the circular economy sector.

**2) Second potential area for partnership: greening urban and peri-urban areas**

Hétis is a partner of several local associations that have developed urban agriculture projects, community gardens, and food-producing gardens aimed at supporting the most vulnerable populations. These initiatives also serve as experimental spaces combining social innovation and sustainable development.

**3) Building renovation of social housing and emergency shelters**

Hétis is a partner of key stakeholders in the social sector who are active in providing emergency accommodation and social housing for the most vulnerable. This sector faces major challenges in financing the energy renovation of its buildings. Local associations therefore wish to build their capacities in order to carry out small-scale energy renovation projects themselves, as part of their professional integration activities. To achieve this, they need to develop their skills and obtain the necessary certifications. The project could thus support the creation of a territorial network / gouvernance for the energy renovation of emergency shelters and social housing, led directly by the associations themselves.

We would like to participate as a **partner**, not as a **coordinator**, since we have not previously been funded by Life+. **We think that our capacity to link social approach and sustainable développement could be an asset for those consortia.**

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