




# **LIFE** CERTIFICATION PREMISES

LIFE-IN-CP-1.0-English

Version 1.0 International - English

(JUNE/2012)

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## OBJECTIVE

To dispose the Premises that ground the LIFE Certification and its methodology.

## APPLICATION


This document applies to organizations in diagnostic phase, preparation for LIFE Certification and formal audit processes, as well as to other parties interested in the LIFE Methodology.

## APPROVAL

Document approved by the LIFE Institute Board of Directors.


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## SUMMARY

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## 1. INTERPRETATION AND USE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document presents the Premises of LIFE Certification, being:

- Premise: the argumentation that defines a purpose or principle.

## 2. PREMISES OF LIFE CERTIFICATION

- a. To conserve biodiversity means to maintain favorable conditions for human life on Earth.
- b. Biodiversity conservation is crucial for human well-being and the maintenance of businesses.
- c. All business activities results in some sort of environmental impact through the use of natural resources which bears direct and/or indirect repercussions on biodiversity, regardless of their management system.
- d. All negative environmental impacts should be firstly avoided, but if unavoidable, should be minimized.
- e. Inevitable impacts (including those already minimized), should be compensated even if the compensation involves a limited action for conservation once that all forms of life and each ecosystem carries unique tangible and intangible values.
- f. Scientific research, as well as the contribution of traditional knowledge when applicable, is mandatory for monitoring and developing new technologies favorable to autochthonous biodiversity conservation and for compensating inevitable or residual impacts.
- g. Positive initiatives for nature conservancy and ecosystem services, based on cutting-edge scientific knowledge, should contribute immediately to reverse the current trend of

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biodiversity loss at all hierarchical levels – genes, species, ecosystems, biomes – as well as their interactions and integrations, and should be evaluated and recognized.

- h. The precautionary principle and the ecosystem approach, basic pillars of the Convention on Biological Diversity, can be put into practice in different ways according to local, regional, national, and international conditions. These approaches always consider the rights of indigenous peoples, and local and traditional communities. Biological and cultural diversity are core components of the ecosystem approach.
- i. The management of conservation and biodiversity use should take into account the importance of fair and equitable sharing of benefits.