

**Question for written answer E-008071/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Implementation of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP)

The objectives of the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (EIP), which was drawn up during the 2007-2013 programming period, include increasing the competitiveness and sustainability of enterprises within the EU and promoting corporate culture.

The EIP's actions overlap with those of the current EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME), except as regards the innovation schemes recognised under Horizon 2020.

In view of the importance of the EIP and COSME as a complement to the policies of EU Member States for entrepreneurs and SMEs, which have a budget of EUR 2 300 million for the period 2014-2020 to help them start up, access funding and become international, and, furthermore, to help the authorities improve the business environment and facilitate the economic growth of the EU:

1. Could the Commission indicate the geographical breakdown of the EIP during the last programming period 2007-2013 by Member States and regions and the expected breakdown of COSME for 2014-2020?
2. Would it be right to assume that those Member States worst affected by the economic crisis have been the main beneficiaries of the EIP?
3. Will this still be the case under the future COSME?