Question for written answer E-008917/2014 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Critical state of the development consortia system in Calabria

The Calabrian Regional Government uses the services of development consortia to safeguard, develop and enhance rural areas, for water management and for environmental protection.

These entities, the workings of which are in a highly critical state, not only enjoy regional, national and EU funding, but also impose contributions held to be unlawful as they are not based on the principle of benefit and are calculated without using approved or up-to-date classification plans. Inhabitants of Calabria who have had to pay contributions to these consortia have, over the years, brought a host of proceedings against them before the tax courts.

The EAGGF has contributed to the financing (under the framework programme agreement for 'Water protection and integrated water resource management' – ROP Calabria 2000/2006 – Priority I – Measure 1.3 – Action 1.3b, Intervention D101) of the project 'Land development and enhancement', the objectives of which include developing a geographical information system (GIS) that can be used to update land registry data and correctly establish the classification plans and contributions levied, with the data being available on the dedicated website www.bonifichecosentine.it.

Since that website turns out not to exist, and as doubts exist over whether the objectives of the project will be achieved, can the Commission state whether it knows about the above?

Has it taken – or will it take – action to verify the objectives of this project and the sound management of the EU funds allocated to it?

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