

**Question for written answer E-010359/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Innovative financing mechanisms for the redevelopment and rehabilitation of brownfield sites

Redeveloping brownfields can help address health, ecological, and economic threats from contaminated land and can lead to a more sustainable use of valuable land resources.

An increasing number of unused and derelict districts can be found throughout Europe as a consequence of the economic downturn. It is estimated that there are 3.5 million contaminated industrial sites in the European Union, 500 000 of which are in need of remediation measures. The combined cost of restoring all large European brownfields is likely to exceed EUR 100 billion.

The development and implementation of effective financing mechanisms is an essential part of successful brownfield redevelopment, especially in the current economic climate where investors are cautious.

Given the difficulties that investors encounter in estimating financial returns and costs of these types of measures, the funding mechanism often require continuous incentives and a balance of public and private intervention to be effective.

Studies have identified four models of innovative financing: Public-Private Partnerships, Land Value Finance, Urban Development Funds and Impact Investment Funds. Local governments are well placed to identify and select the most suitable financing mechanism.

What role can EU measures play in contributing to boosting the implementation of new funding mechanisms for the redevelopment of those areas and therefore in encouraging their regeneration?