

**Question for written answer E-010963/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Use of ERDF funds for projects associated with biodiversity

The report by the European Court of Auditors on whether the ERDF is effective in funding projects that directly promote biodiversity states that not all existing opportunities are being taken advantage of and it proposes a range of recommendations to enable the Commission to rectify the problems.

In this sense, it is requested that the Commission support Member States in setting biodiversity restoration priorities in operational programmes, that it assess the complementarity of the actions to promote biodiversity identified by the Member States in the operational programmes with projects financed by other EU funds and that it monitor the actual implementation of operational programmes in view of an early and proactive identification of difficulties.

What measures is the Commission planning to adopt to help Member States to make better use of the financial opportunities provided by the ERDF to finance actions and projects aimed at protecting biodiversity?