ENE-001479/2019Answer given by Mr Hoganon behalf of the European Commission(12.6.2019)

1. The legal proposals of the Commission for the future Common Agricultural Policy lay down conditions for the support aimed at the rational management of water resources. This includes support for farming practices enhancing farms’ adaptation and resilience to climate change. Such support can take form of eco-schemes, climate and environmental management commitments or compensation for requirements resulting from Water Framework Directive[[1]](#footnote-1).

As regards a possible support for irrigation, investments which are not consistent with the achievement of good status of water bodies, including expansion of irrigation affecting water bodies whose status has been defined as less than good, are ineligible for support from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

2. The Greek Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020 identified specific needs on water management relating to irrigation[[2]](#footnote-2) and foresees support to that end. The RDP provides support for investments in irrigation, which should be in line with the revised River Basin Management Plans (RBMP), approved in 2017. More specifically, support is available to agricultural holdings for investments in modern irrigation systems, leading to water savings and for improvements of the water supply network[[3]](#footnote-3). All investments in new and existing irrigated areas must respect the conditions set out in Article 46 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013[[4]](#footnote-4) setting up specific rules on investments in irrigation.

1. Article 68.3.(f) of CAP Stategic Plans regulation [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Chapter 4 : SWOT and identification of needs [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013, OJ L 347, 20.12.2013 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. OJ L 347, 20.12.2013 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)