



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Regional Development

2014/2209(INI)

9.3.2015

AMENDMENTS

1 - 57

Draft opinion
Dan Nica
(PE549.130v01-00)

Green growth opportunities for SMEs
(2014/2209(INI))

AM\1052734EN.doc

PE551.769v01-00

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United in diversity

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AM_Com_NonLegOpinion

Amendment 1

Rosa D'Amato, Isabella Adinolfi, Marco Zullo

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) **and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)** in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors; **is of the opinion** that those funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;

Amendment

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors; **hopes** that those funds, **together with the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)**, will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;

Or. it

Amendment 2

Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion

Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) **and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI)** in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors; **is of the opinion** that those funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;

Amendment

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors; **is of the opinion** that those funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth **and its Flagship Initiatives**;

Or. en

Amendment 3
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a **low-carbon** economy in all sectors; is of the opinion that **those** funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;

Amendment

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a **low - carbon** economy in all sectors; is of the opinion that **the ESI** funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive **growth and recommends the EFSI to be focussed on the same aim; stresses the importance of thematic concentration to ensure that funding opportunities are geared towards green** growth;

Or. en

Amendment 4
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs **and** in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors; is of the opinion that those funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive

Amendment

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors, **and in promoting resource efficiency**; is of the opinion that those funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives

growth;

for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;

Or. de

Amendment 5
José Blanco López

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1

Draft opinion

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund (*ESIF*) and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (*EFSI*) in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors; is of the opinion that those funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;

Amendment

1. Underlines the importance of each European Structural and Investment Fund and of the European Fund for Strategic Investments in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs and in supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors; is of the opinion that those funds will contribute to the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;

(In the Spanish version, the abbreviation is the same for both Funds.)

Or. es

Amendment 6
Ramón Luis Valcárcel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1a. Points out that the green sector is a vector for entrepreneurship and youth employment and that concrete steps need to be taken in this area to help achieve the aims being sought; believes that the potential of SMEs in the area of the

environment and sustainability will only be realised by improving workers' green skills, and therefore calls on the Commission and Member States to use all the means at their disposal to provide advice to workers and raise their awareness, through environmental days, seminars, conferences, networks, study courses and guides, and by arranging for training on a range of environmental topics in order to improve workers' knowledge and skills, and calls for the support for training to be focussed on the young and the most disadvantaged groups;

Or. es

Amendment 7
Ramón Luis Valcárcel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 1 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

1b. Stresses the need to complement the use that Member States make of financial instruments for SMEs at national and regional level, and points out that it is essential, in order to ensure complementarity, to coordinate the measures taken under the Cohesion Policy and the Horizon 2020 Programme, both nationally and regionally;

Or. es

Amendment 8
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph -1 (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

-1. Urges the local and regional authorities to define production sectors and productive structures in which SMEs can move ahead with green growth and, having identified them, support them in this dynamic;

Or. es

Amendment 9
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to ***initiate*** policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in ***green growth*** and eco-innovation, ***in order to*** promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to ***devise clear-cut, feasible*** policies ***and combine these with existing strategies and support options in order to provide a basis for specific recommendations for (administratively straightforward) action*** which would encourage SMEs to invest ***both in processes to improve their resource and energy efficiency*** and ***in*** eco-innovation ***and would in that way*** promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Or. de

Amendment 10
José Blanco López

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles **and to initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation**, in order to **promote** opportunities for employment **and the enhancement of sustainable growth**;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles **to green growth among SMEs and to eco-innovation and to pursue policies which help foster their development**, in order to **achieve greater sustainable growth and create new** opportunities for employment **in the EU**;

Or. es

Amendment 11
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles **and** to initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment **and** the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying **and removing** the main obstacles, to initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, **and to provide guidance for and promote the shift towards green economy**, in order to promote opportunities for employment, the enhancement of sustainable growth **and the protection of the environment and the climate; recalls that the innovation capacity of European SMEs on green economy is one of the main competitive advantages in globalized markets**;

Or. en

Amendment 12
Rolandas Paksas

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies which would encourage *SMEs* to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies ***and lay down regulatory measures*** which would ***make SMEs shift towards the green economy*** and encourage ***them*** to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Or. It

Amendment 13

James Nicholson, Andrew Lewer

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to ***initiate policies*** which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to ***encourage a friendly regulatory environment*** which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Or. en

Amendment 14

Tonino Picula

Draft opinion

Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles ***preventing***

initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

the available funds from being fully utilised and to initiate policies which would *additionally* encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Or. hr

Amendment 15
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth; *calls on the Commission, the Member States and local authorities to remove these barriers and facilitate access to credit for SMEs without this entailing an additional administrative burden which is difficult for SMEs to assume;*

Or. es

Amendment 16
Ramón Luis Valcárcel

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies which would encourage

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies which would encourage

SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth; ***calls also for the Commission and Member States to reduce administrative burdens and unnecessary rules and to keep these to a minimum;***

Or. es

Amendment 17
Daniel Buda, Iuliu Winkler

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth; ***recognises that sustainable development has a significant growth potential and accordingly urges the Commission to make financing instruments as accessible as possible;***

Or. ro

Amendment 18
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2

Draft opinion

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to

Amendment

2. Calls on the Commission to continue identifying the main obstacles and to

initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

initiate policies which would encourage SMEs to invest in *resource efficiency*, green growth and eco-innovation, in order to promote opportunities for employment and the enhancement of sustainable growth;

Or. en

Amendment 19
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to find a swift, responsible solution to the enormous backlog of payments related to regional policy and as regards the handling of ESIF assistance for the previous funding period, so as to ensure that SMEs as project partners will not, on account of payment delays, be deterred from taking part in support programmes;

Or. de

Amendment 20
Rolandas Paksas

Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

2a. Calls for constraints on economic performance to be reduced and for the undesirable consequences for household budgets entailed in 'green' tax reform to be mitigated; calls for an 'eco-bonus' to be established in order to compensate

households for possible losses by lowering the taxes that they pay (on property or income);

Or. It

Amendment 21
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. **Recommends to** the Member States *that they include, when drafting the* selection criteria for EU-funded projects, *elements that should incentivise* projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Amendment

3. **Calls on** the Member States *and the Commission to draft clear and objectively comprehensible* selection criteria for EU-funded projects *in order to increase the attractiveness of* projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of *SME and* environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Or. de

Amendment 22
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for *EU-funded* projects, elements that should incentivise projects *geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and* ensure a balanced representation of *environmental* stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Amendment

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for *ESIF-funded* projects, elements that should incentivise projects *which can turn environmental challenges into business opportunities, and also* ensure a balanced representation of *relevant* stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Or. en

Amendment 23
Daniel Buda, Iuliu Winkler

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Amendment

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;
recommends Member States to take into account the specific characteristics of sustainable development in establishing these selection criteria;

Or. ro

Amendment 24
James Nicholson, Andrew Lewer

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Amendment

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders, ***local and regional authorities and business groups*** when establishing the monitoring committees;

Or. en

Amendment 25
José Blanco López

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Amendment

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation, ***together with the social partners***, of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Or. es

Amendment 26
Demetris Papadakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3

Draft opinion

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring committees;

Amendment

3. Recommends to the Member States that they include, when drafting the selection criteria for EU-funded projects, elements that should incentivise projects geared towards sustainable and smart growth, and ensure a balanced representation of environmental stakeholders when establishing the monitoring ***and evaluation*** committees;

Or. el

Amendment 27
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 3 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

3a. Considers that monitoring and reporting systems should be based on indicators that allow drawing conclusions about the contribution of SMEs to green growth and the impact of funding for SMEs on green jobs and carbon footprint;

Or. en

Amendment 28
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

Amendment

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

4. Calls on all Member States, taking into account their national and regional needs, to include ‘green’ public procurement in their operational programmes and to encourage their national, regional, and local authorities to increase the proportion of green public procurement and hence offer real incentives for SMEs to develop environment-friendly products and services, the object being to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Or. de

Amendment 29
Daniel Buda, Iuliu Winkler

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Amendment

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State; ***calls on the Commission to provide SMEs with technical assistance for developing sustainable projects; urges the Commission to facilitate financial instruments for sustainable investment in order to attract private capital;***

Or. ro

Amendment 30
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform

Amendment

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform

Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State; ***recommends further efforts in achieving synergies by an integrated use of available funds;***

Or. en

Amendment 31
Demetris Papadakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Amendment

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs ***investing in green growth and ecological innovation*** that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Or. el

Amendment 32
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational

Amendment

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational

programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, *green* energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, *renewable* energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Or. en

Amendment 33
José Blanco López

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4

Draft opinion

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote green growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Amendment

4. Encourages the Member States to address – within their operational programmes – their national and regional needs when making use of ‘green’ public procurement, in order to promote *new* green *employment and* growth opportunities for SMEs (such as recycling, green energy production, energy efficiency and energy saving schemes); calls on the Commission to inform Parliament on the percentage/number of SMEs that are financed through the operational programmes in each Member State;

Or. es

Amendment 34
Demetris Papadakis

Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1 (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

Stresses that, in order to create opportunities for green growth, it is necessary to provide SMEs with practical information, advice and support through targeted actions that could be coordinated by regional and local authorities;

Or. el

Amendment 35
James Nicholson, Andrew Lewer

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

5. ***Encourages the extension*** of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

5. ***Notes the use*** of innovative support schemes ***in some Member States***, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

Or. en

Amendment 36
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

Amendment

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market; ***maintains, as regards applications for support, that the rules need to be simple and clear and only a***

modest administrative effort should be required;

Or. de

Amendment 37

Rosa D'Amato, Isabella Adinolfi, Marco Zullo

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

Amendment

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market; ***urges the Member States to support the activities of firms involved in the decontamination of polluted sites and in research into new decontamination technologies and sustainable methodological approaches;***

Or. it

Amendment 38

Rosa D'Amato, Isabella Adinolfi, Marco Zullo

Draft opinion

Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

Amendment

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market; ***urges the Member States to promote structural reforms proceeding from the now proven fact that economic growth and environmental sustainability***

are mutually compatible;

Or. it

Amendment 39
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

Amendment

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, ***and research and development*** which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly ***and climate resilient*** solutions into the market;

Or. en

Amendment 40
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5

Draft opinion

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

Amendment

5. Encourages the extension of innovative support schemes, such as green innovation vouchers, ***if Member States characteristics allows***, which can promote the introduction of sustainable technologies and environmentally friendly solutions into the market;

Or. en

Amendment 41
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Calls on the Commission and Member States to find innovative financing solutions for supporting SMEs within European Structural and Investment Funds Operational Programmes in the sector of renewable energy which encountered a high bankruptcy rate, due to external dumping practices as well as the fast changing regulatory frameworks.

Or. en

Amendment 42
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Urges the Member States and regional authorities to step up awareness-raising among SMEs and entrepreneurs of the scale and implications of the transition to a low-carbon economy; invites the public authorities to address the lack of knowledge, resources and skills as regards green technologies which exists in the EU, and therefore stresses the need to inform SMEs of the growth and employment opportunities that these new business models and practices can bring. The task of educating and training to be accomplished by the local and regional authorities is a crucial one;

Or. es

Amendment 43
Rosa D'Amato, Isabella Adinolfi, Marco Zullo

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. ***Calls on*** the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Amendment

6. ***Asks*** the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain; ***calls on local authorities to use available indirect funding to support eco-innovative SME ventures, not least by applying procedures enabling that funding to be pooled with the direct funding (under the Smart Specialisation Strategies, for example) provided in order to seek and establish clusters of excellence and quality districts;***

Or. it

Amendment 44
Daniel Buda, Iuliu Winkler

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain; ***welcomes the environmental initiatives proposed by the Commission for 2015 and stresses the positive impact***

Amendment 45
Daniel Buda, Iuliu Winkler

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain; ***calls on the Member-State authorities, together with the business sector and civil society, to set up sustainable growth innovation partnerships;***

Amendment 46
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, ***clusters and regional associations of SMEs*** through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract

cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Or. en

Amendment 47
James Nicholson, Andrew Lewer

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, **where appropriate**, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Or. en

Amendment 48
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6

Draft opinion

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Amendment

6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support and promote the creation of thematic and geographic/regional platforms, through which incremental or breakthrough eco-innovative projects would attract private **and public** investments, and to encourage stakeholder cooperation in order to enrich the European value chain;

Amendment 49
Julie Ward

Draft opinion
Paragraph 6 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

6a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take particular notice of and respond to the opportunities and challenges presented by rural areas in respect of SMEs, green growth and eco-innovation.

Or. en

Amendment 50
James Nicholson, Andrew Lewer

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

Amendment

7. Calls on the Member States (at the level of national and regional policy-makers and managing authorities) to continuously promote sustainable growth under the smart specialisation strategies with the engagement of key stakeholders; asks the Commission to report to Parliament on the implementation of smart specialisation strategies at national and/or regional level, where appropriate, and especially as regards the various patterns of 'downstream actions' used at EU and Member State level; calls on the Commission and the Member States to ***provide information on the practical measures taken in order to develop competencies for eco-innovative SMEs***

7. Calls on the Member States (at the level of national and regional policy-makers and managing authorities) to continuously promote sustainable growth under the smart specialisation strategies with the engagement of key stakeholders; asks the Commission to report to Parliament on the implementation of smart specialisation strategies at national and/or regional level, where appropriate, and especially as regards the various patterns of 'downstream actions' used at EU and Member State level; calls on the Commission and the Member States to ***ensure that eco-innovative SMEs are fully informed of*** interconnecting regional innovation centres and the key support

through interconnecting regional innovation centres and the key support networks.

networks, *which could help develop their business*.

Or. en

Amendment 51
Davor Škrlec

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Calls on the Member States (at the level of national *and* regional policy-makers and managing authorities) to continuously promote sustainable growth under the smart specialisation strategies with the engagement of key stakeholders; asks the Commission to report to Parliament on the implementation of smart specialisation strategies at national and/or regional level, where appropriate, and especially as regards the various patterns of ‘downstream actions’ used at EU and Member State level; calls on the Commission and the Member States to provide information on the practical measures taken in order to develop competencies for eco-innovative SMEs through interconnecting regional innovation centres and the key support networks.

Amendment

7. Calls on the Member States (at the level of national, regional *and local* policy-makers and managing authorities) to continuously promote sustainable growth under the smart specialisation strategies with the engagement of key stakeholders; asks the Commission to report to Parliament on the implementation of smart specialisation strategies at national and/or regional level, where appropriate, and especially as regards the various patterns of ‘downstream actions’ used at EU and Member State level; calls on the Commission and the Member States to provide information on the practical measures taken in order to develop competencies for eco-innovative SMEs through interconnecting regional innovation centres and the key support networks.

Or. en

Amendment 52
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7

Draft opinion

7. Calls on the Member States (at the level of national and regional policy-makers and managing authorities) to continuously promote sustainable growth under the smart specialisation strategies with the engagement of key stakeholders; asks the Commission to report to Parliament on the implementation of smart specialisation strategies at national and/or regional level, where appropriate, and especially as regards the various patterns of 'downstream actions' used at EU and Member State level; calls on the Commission and the Member States to provide information on the practical measures taken in order to develop competencies for eco-innovative SMEs through interconnecting regional innovation centres and the key support networks.

Amendment

7. Calls on the Member States (at the level of national and regional policy-makers and managing authorities) to continuously promote sustainable growth under the smart specialisation strategies with the engagement of key stakeholders (***research centres, universities and enterprises***) ***which will promote groupings, synergies and networks centring on green economy activities***; asks the Commission to report to Parliament on the implementation of smart specialisation strategies at national and/or regional level, where appropriate, and especially as regards the various patterns of 'downstream actions' used at EU and Member State level; calls on the Commission and the Member States to provide information on the practical measures taken in order to develop competencies for eco-innovative SMEs through interconnecting regional innovation centres and the key support networks.

Or. es

Amendment 53
Pascal Arimont

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

7a. Maintains that SMEs frequently do not recognise the possibilities available to them, for instance for enhancing their energy and material efficiency; calls on the Member States and regions to devise measures to make SMEs more aware of green growth opportunities, not just by supplying them with information, but by approaching them directly and advising

Amendment

them and by supporting exchanges of tried and tested practice in order to help them understand more clearly that resource efficiency both contributes to environmental protection and increases their competitiveness and is consequently an area in which they should invest.

Or. de

Amendment 54
Ivan Jakovčić

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7a. Stresses the necessity for higher exploitation of youth entrepreneurship' potentials in the context of green growth of SMEs, taking into account situations in which youth unemployment is a big problem for EU countries. In this sense it calls the Commission to prepare measures which would connect educational institutions, European programmes, measures to support green economy and youth;

Or. en

Amendment 55
Enrique Calvet Chambon

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7a. Urges the Member States to develop consistent and reliable rules that generate the confidence needed to ensure investment in sustainable and eco-innovative business models, including

via financial incentives, which would ideally be applied at local and regional level for new enterprises, without distorting competition rules;

Or. es

Amendment 56
Viorica Dăncilă

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7a. Stresses the importance to maintain the right balance in the legislative framework in order to allow SMEs to maintain its competitiveness in the current European context;

Or. en

Amendment 57
Ivan Jakovčić

Draft opinion
Paragraph 7 b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

7b. Calls on the Commission to prepare measures which would, in the post 2020 period and through regional policy, create specific programmes that would include all elements of green growth for SMEs;

Or. en