

Question for written answer E-012848/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Herbert Reul (PPE)

Subject: ERDF support for energy efficiency (2014-2020)

The Commission has repeatedly noted that buildings offer immense potential for greater energy efficiency.

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF – Regulation (EU) No 1301/2013) can be used to '[support] energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector' (Article 5(4)(c)).

Member States and regional authorities have to decide which types of housing, if any, can be supported within the ERDF investment priorities and take that point into account when drawing up operational programmes and conducting the related negotiations. Private housing may already have been covered by a 2014 Commission document entitled 'Technical guidance – Financing the energy renovation of buildings with cohesion policy funding'.

By now the Commission should have a clear overall picture of the content of the operational programmes.

On the basis of the information in its possession, can it say how many of the operational programmes adopted to date allow ERDF funding to be used for energy efficiency-related investment in the private housing sector?

Which particular regions and operational programmes are concerned?

Which financing arrangements can be employed and to what extent?