

**Question for written answer E-003400/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Laura Ferrara (NI)**

Subject: Urban Generation project in Cosenza

In September 2015, a number of 'Urban Generation' interactive kiosk totems were installed in Cosenza and around the University of Calabria in Rende as part of the 'Social Innovation' (Smart Cities and Communities) programme announced by the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research.

The chief purpose of the project, funded by the 2007-2013 National Operational Research and Competitiveness Programme (PON-REC), was to promote sustainable and participatory mobility as a means of improving the quality of urban life.

As well as the introducing the 'Smart City' concept throughout the entire urban area, the 'Urban Generation' project also involved the installation of semi-automatic defibrillators for use in emergencies.

Years later, however, it transpires that, aside from a very brief experimental period, the kiosk totems were never actually operational and for most of the time were not even switched on, let alone usable, as recently revealed in a well-known television documentary <sup>1</sup>.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say how much EU funding was channelled into the project?
2. Did the project ever get off the ground?
3. What steps will it take in response to this flagrant example of EU funds being squandered?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.striscialanotizia.mediaset.it/video/urban-generation-i-totem-inutilizzati-a-cosenza\\_67656.shtml](https://www.striscialanotizia.mediaset.it/video/urban-generation-i-totem-inutilizzati-a-cosenza_67656.shtml)