

**Question for written answer E-005502/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Raffaele Fitto (ECR)

Subject: EAFRD Apulia 2014-2020

AGEA has published its 'Report on expenditure incurred for RDPs', which sets out the data on the progress of the expenditure planned and incurred by the Regions and Autonomous Provinces as at 30 October 2021, and the relevant automatic EAFRD decommitment update.

For some regions, which have already given their approval, the overall budget for the programme has been updated with EAFRD funds for 2021-2022 and EURI funds.

Apulia has recorded a 39.18% take-up of funding, which is significantly lower than the national average (58.62%) and that of the southern regions (57.45%).

In addition, it had a 0.00% take-up of funding in commitment year 2018 (N +3 rule), compared to the national average (76.32%) and the southern average (57.52%).

The amount of public funding at risk of decommitment on 31/12/2021 is EUR 231 303 817, of which EUR 139 938 809 is from the EAFRD.

Given that in 2020 and 2021 the Commission had already granted Apulia derogations with regard to the use of the funds and that in March 2021 it had given a specific timetable for the 2017 annual resources, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What is the take-up of funding for the year 2017 in relation to the proposed timetable?
2. As regards the 2018 commitment year, is it aware of the current delays and what measures will it take to ensure that spending is stepped up, thereby avoiding the automatic decommitment procedure?