

**Question for written answer E-000531/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** EU financial aid for Réunion in the wake of Cyclone Belal

In mid-January 2024, the island of Réunion was hit by Cyclone Belal. The strongest winds were between 150 and 170 km/h. Extensive damage was caused, but as yet there have been no estimates of the reconstruction costs.

Four people were killed.

The island is now facing major reconstruction and recovery challenges. Infrastructure was heavily damaged, and major work will be needed to repair roads, bridges, water supply and the electricity grid. A further priority is to restore essential services and get agricultural activities that have been affected up and running again. Other crucial measures include restoring the environment and relaunching the tourism sector, both of which have been impacted. Finally, preventive and adaptation measures must be put in place to strengthen the island's resilience to future natural disasters.

Does the Commission plan to provide financial support to Réunion under the European Regional Development Fund, the European Union Solidarity Fund or the European Social Fund?

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