

**Question for written answer P-8026/2010
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio (PPE)

Subject: Implementation of the Rural Development Programme in Andalusia

Mismanagement on the part of the Andalusian regional government has led to a delay of more than two years with respect to the full implementation of the Rural Development Programme in Andalusia. The Young Farmers' Association (ASAJA) has condemned both this delay and a series of changes which were made to the programme's budget – affecting the competitiveness measure in Axis 4 – without the mandatory consultation of the programme's monitoring committee being carried out.

Another problem among the many surrounding the implementation of the programme in Andalusia is that of inequality – not just on paper, but also in practice – between public and private sector involvement in the management bodies of the rural development groups.

The ASAJA is also unhappy about the preference shown to local authorities, stating that in some rural development groups, projects proposed by local authorities are 80% publicly co-funded, whereas private sector projects are awarded a far lower rate of public co-funding.

The ASAJA regrets the fact that discrimination against farmers' groups has been experienced in some of the rural development groups.

Is the Commission intending to look in detail at the claims being made by the ASAJA? What steps could the Commission take to ensure that the Andalusian authorities correct the irregularities mentioned above and speed up the management of the Rural Development Programme in the region of Andalusia?