

**Priority question for written answer P-003287/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Laura Ferrara (NI)

Subject: Calabria 2014-2020 regional development programme (RDP): delays in disbursement of funds for Measure 8

Measure 8 of the Calabria 2014-2020 RDP targets investment in the development of forest areas.

On 23 February 2017 the Calabria Regional Executive endorsed by means of Decree DDG No 1902 public notification of five actions under Measure 8. These include Actions 8.3.1. on 'Prevention of damage from fires and natural disasters' and 8.5.1. on 'Direct investment in increasing the resilience and environmental worth of forest ecosystems'.

More than three years after the notification was published, virtually nothing has been disbursed to those beneficiaries eligible for financing.

Furthermore, it turns out that the financial envelope budgeted for Actions 8.3.1. and 8.5.1. (2017 yearly instalment) is insufficient to ensure financial support for all the applications classified as eligible in the final lists.

In light of the foregoing, can the Commission answer the following:

1. How much of the financial contribution has been disbursed to date to 'eligible' applications under Actions 8.3.1. and 8.5.1. (2017 yearly instalment)?
2. Will the Commission call on the Calabria Regional Executive and the Management Authority to guarantee disbursement of the financial contribution to all 'eligible' beneficiaries (Actions 8.3.1. and 8.5.1.), including through residual savings from Actions 8.1.1., 8.4.1. and 8.6.1.?
3. Does it view as acceptable the length of time taken in the procedural steps for this measure and other measures of the Calabria RDP?