

**Priority question for written answer P-000665/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Support for water recycling and storage infrastructures

Heat and drought stress are becoming a growing problem for European farmers. Water recycling and storage are therefore essential in order to be able to irrigate crops in summer and maintain harvest levels. With its regulation on minimum requirements for the reuse of water, the Commission has sought to introduce a harmonised legislative framework for this purpose. It now remains to be seen whether the regulation can be implemented with the desired results. However, the necessary infrastructure will be too expensive to put in place without assistance. A combination of grants and cheap loans could thus greatly facilitate matters. However, EU grants are not sufficiently tailored to this objective.

1. What funding is being earmarked by the Commission to encourage the provision of water reuse and collection infrastructures?
2. Does it intend to step up this assistance in the coming years in view of the growing drought stress that is making itself felt in the European Union?
3. What policy options are being envisaged by the Commission with a view to mobilising the necessary resources through grants, cheap loans or public-private partnerships?

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