

EN

E-001574/2024

Answer given by Ms Ferreira
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.10.2024)

1. EUR 150 million have been allocated from the 2014-2020 Cohesion Policy programme 'Transport Infrastructure, Environment and Sustainable Development' to support the disaster management system of the affected Greek regions to address the consequences of the floods. Additionally, around EUR 13 million have been allocated from the 'Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation' programme to support the adaptability of enterprises and workers affected by the floods. Under shared management Greece is responsible for the selection and implementation of projects in line with programme objectives and priorities.

2. The EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF) provides financial assistance to EU countries facing severe natural disasters according to the specific rules set out in Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002¹. EUSF financial assistance is intended to supplement the countries' own public expenditure to finance essential emergency and recovery operations. Following Greece's application, the Budget authority approved mobilisation of EUR 101.5 million of EUSF assistance for Greece following the floods in September 2023. The EUSF aid calculation methodology has been established in 2023 and accepted by the European Parliament and the Council.

Under the Greek Rural Development Programme 2014-2022, support is foreseen from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development for investments to restore agricultural and forestry potential following natural disasters, adverse climatic or catastrophic events amounting to EUR 45 million². At the end of 2023, the Commission provided an additional exceptional funding of EUR 43 million through the agricultural crisis reserve³. These funds were paid to farmers around lake Karla by the end of May 2024.

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 2012/2002 of 11 November 2002 establishing the European Union Solidarity Fund (OJ L 311, 14.11.2002, p. 3) as amended by Regulation (EU) No 661/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council of 15 May 2014 (OJ L 189, 27.6.2014, p. 143) and by Regulation (EU) 2020/461 of the European Parliament and the Council of 30 March 2020 (OJ L 99, 31.3.2020, p. 9).

² <https://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/prosklisi/li-prosklisi-ekdilosis-endiaferontos-gia-tin-ypovoli-aitiseon-stirixis-sto-ypometro-5-2-tou-paa-2014-2022/>

³ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2820 of 15 December 2023 providing for emergency financial support for the agricultural sectors affected by natural disasters in Greece and Slovenia, OJ L, 2023/2820, 18.12.2023.