

EN

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Answer given by Mr Wojciechowski
on behalf of the European Commission
(20.11.2024)

The Commission is aware of the constraints faced by Outermost Regions as recognised by the Treaty¹. EU provides several support opportunities for the fruit and vegetable production under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

First of all, the POSEI scheme², with its high level of support and degree of subsidiarity, continues to be an efficient instrument to strengthen local production by supporting crop diversification including fruit and vegetable production. There is also complementary national funding under POSEI. In 2023, EUR 5,5 million were allocated to crop diversification in Guadeloupe.

Through the French CAP Strategic Plan, producers can benefit from area-based support for organic farming, and integrated production. In addition, there is aid for investments in agricultural holdings, including specific support for young farmers (EUR 6 million), and for the processing and marketing of agricultural products. Risk management tools are available for farmers, as is the specific support for areas facing natural constraints, comprising mountain areas (EUR 5 million).

The CAP also supports prevention actions and the restauration of agricultural production potential damaged by natural disasters and including plant diseases³.

Finally, in his Mission letter, the Commissioner-designate for Agriculture and Food⁴, has been tasked to present under the new Commission a generational renewal strategy, notably to support family farms and young farmers to access capital.

¹ Article 349 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

² Programme of Specific Options Relating to the Remoteness and Insularity (first pillar of the CAP financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF)) replacing the direct payments granted under the first pillar of the CAP in all other EU regions.

³ Subject to the official recognition by the national authorities of the occurrence of a natural disaster. Also, it should be noted that the Commission recently put forward proposals to amend the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) 2014–2022 legal framework, with a view to granting further flexibility to Member States to support farmers affected by natural disasters and including plant diseases.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_24_5321

⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/document/2c64e540-c07a-4376-a1da-368d289f4afe_en