

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000382/25
to the Commission
Liesbet Sommen (PPE)
(28 January 2025)**

Subject: Green Deal — Translation into local action

Local and regional authorities play a crucial role in implementing the European Green Deal. During the Belgian Presidency, a conference entitled ‘Translating the European Green Deal into Local Action’ was organised. At this conference, former Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič emphasised the importance of the local level in implementing the Green Deal. Many initiatives have already been taken, such as the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy and the Green City Accord. In view of the above:

1. Will there be more alignment and integration between EU cohesion policy funds and the Green Deal objectives, and will this aspect be included in the discussions on the mid-term review of the long-term budget 2021-2027?
2. What measures will be taken to improve synergies between EU funding and supporting instruments to achieve greater impact and avoid counterproductive policies and unnecessary burdens?
3. Can cooperation between the Commission and the Committee of the Regions be strengthened through a ‘Green Deal Going Local’ task force or other support platform, acting as a focal point and providing guidance to align the EU Green Deal with local and regional needs?

Submitted: 28.1.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto on behalf of the European Commission
(4 April 2025)**

Substantial financial means are available at the EU level to support local and regional authorities in implementing the objectives of the European Green Deal.

About one third of all 2021-2027 cohesion policy funding, more than EUR 110 billion, will be invested in the green transition. The mid-term review of programmes for 2021-2027 provides an opportunity to address emerging priorities, boost implementation and make strategic choices on the best use of available resources, including on actions of the Green Deal.

The Commission is striving to support local and regional authorities in responding to climate and environmental challenges in alignment with the EU priorities.

The funds should support types of activities that comply with the ‘Do No Significant Harm’ principle.

Moreover, a comprehensive EU Agenda for Cities is being prepared to take stock of the existing support tools with a view to streamlining them to improve synergies and achieve greater impact.

The Agenda will focus on ensuring that cities have active participation in the design and implementation of relevant policy initiatives. For post-2027, a simpler, and more impactful long-term budget would help improve synergies and efficiency of EU policies.

The Commission will continue working closely with the Committee of the Regions including with its ‘Green Deal Going Local’ task force, with a view to jointly implementing the future EU Agenda for Cities that is in making.
