

EN
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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
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This interim evaluation report of the Single Market Programme (Regulation (EU) 2021/690¹) adopted on 1 July 2025, assessed the effectiveness of the veterinary and phytosanitary programmes and of the emergency measures in place. The report concluded that the flexibility provided for in the current work programmes made it possible to address some unforeseen challenges and has contributed to the effectiveness of the emergency measures taken. As regards the programme management, the interim evaluation noted that it has made significant efforts towards simplification, including the acceptance of unit costs, lump sums and multi-annual grants and a step towards increased digital transformation and efficiency.

During the period of 2021-2024 there were large scale animal disease outbreaks in the EU, such as highly pathogenic avian influenza and African swine fever. Due to these outbreaks, the veterinary and phytosanitary programmes saw co-financing rates cut by 60% from 2023 onward, since the allocated funds were insufficient to cope with such large-scale crises. The next Multiannual Financial Framework will take into account these experiences.

¹ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/690/oj>.