(English version)

Question for written answer E-002442/25
to the Commission
César Luena (S&D)
(17 June 2025)

Subject: Inclusion of biodiversity in the system monitoring the Recovery and Resilience Facility

The planetary crisis that we face today is not just due to climate change, but also to the alarming loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems that are essential to life. In this context, the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) officially dedicates 37% of funding to the green transition, although Member States have exceeded this target, dedicating an average of 42% of expenditure to climate goals.

However, while the RRF's green transition pillar also covers other aspects related to biodiversity and the environment, the current monitoring system only tracks climate-related actions.

In light of this:

1. How will the Commission improve the monitoring system to more effectively track biodiversity and environmental measures under the RRF?

2. What specific steps will the Commission take to ensure that future financial instruments fairly and comprehensively address both climate action and environmental conservation?

3. How will the Commission ensure compliance with the principles of good government and efficient management of funds for biodiversity?

Submitted: 17.6.2025

Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis on behalf of the European Commission
(18 August 2025)

Under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) Regulation 2021/241, biodiversity is one of the areas that should be supported by reforms and investments for the green transition.

The regulation acknowledges the importance of tackling the biodiversity loss and sets out RRF as a contributor to the mainstreaming of biodiversity action in Union policies.

With more than EUR 11 billion ([1]) dedicated to biodiversity, the RRF is the third EU instrument per contribution after the Common Agricultural Policy and the Cohesion funds.

In the RRF, the Commission used the climate tracking methodology outlined in Annex VI of the RRF Regulation ([2]). As the RRF ends by 31/12/2026, the focus is now on implementing each RRP and there is therefore no ongoing work to change monitoring systems.

The Commission proposal on the next Multiannual Financial Framework provides for a new monitoring system for horizontal priorities where a 35% 'climate and environment spending target' and a streamlined application of the 'do no significant harm' principle, where feasible and appropriate to achieve the set objectives of the programmes and activities, will in particular apply. ([3])

([1]) https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/83ae884a-db42-4423-aca0-3cf8dfb0e02d_en?filename=Budget%20contribution%20-%20biodiversity.pdf.
([2]) https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32021R0241.
([3]) Article 4 and 5, respectively, in https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0545&qid=1753797488776.