

EN
E-003140/2025
Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.9.2025)

Following a ruling of the Court of Justice of the EU¹ whereby Greece was declared to have failed to fulfil its obligations under the Water Framework Directive², the third River Basin Management Plans were finally adopted and submitted. The Commission is assessing them and intends to publish the results end of 2025. Among the information provided, abstraction is a main reason for 6.1% of surface water bodies failing good ecological status. Lake Plastiras is identified as a highly modified waterbody with moderate ecological potential. According to the data reported by the Greek authorities, 14.1% of the groundwater bodies failed good quantitative status. The Plan reported includes measures on infrastructure, dams, and water reuse. Once its assessment will be finalised, the Commission will, in line with the EU Water Resilience Strategy³, engage in a structured dialogue with all relevant Greek authorities to address the country-specific recommendations it will make.

Under the 2021–2027 Cohesion Policy⁴, public funding resources amounting to approximately EUR 626 million may support investments in sustainable water management in Greece. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) supports irrigation projects, with the Greek CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 providing up to EUR 260 million⁵. However the selection and implementation of such projects are the responsibility of the Greek managing authorities. Therefore, the Commission does not have at its disposal a detailed list of individual projects. The Commission also notes that proposed amendments to Regulations (EU) 2021/1058⁶ and 2021/1056⁷ highlight water resilience as a new EU priority, with flexibilities for Member States to increase support during the mid-term review of their programmes.

¹ <https://curia.europa.eu/juris/documents.jsf?num=C-359/24>.

² Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy, OJ L 327, 22.12.2000, p. 1–73, as amended by Commission Directive 2014/101/EU of 30 October 2014, OJ L 311, 31.10.2014, p. 32–35.

³ https://commission.europa.eu/topics/environment/water-resilience-strategy_en.

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funding/available-budget_en.

⁵ Union contribution for interventions P3-73-1.1 and P3-73-1.4 <https://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/category/sskap-2023-2027/sskap-egkrisi-tropopoiiseis/>.

⁶ Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund, OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, pp. 60–93.

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2021/1056 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 establishing the Just Transition Fund, OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, pp. 1–20.