

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003806/25
to the Commission
Dimitris Tsiodras (PPE)
(1 October 2025)**

Subject: Ensuring adequate funding for water resilience under the new Multiannual Financial Framework

The recently adopted Water Resilience Strategy recognises that without significant additional public and private investment at all stages of water management, progress towards water resilience will be very slow or lack any real impact, with the investment gap estimated at around EUR 25 billion per year.

The Commission's proposal for the 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework does not include a dedicated fund, despite Parliament's recent report calling on the Commission to create a separate and specific fund for water resilience under the next MFF.

In light of the above:

1. How does the Commission intend to ensure adequate funding in the next MFF for water resilience, including for the development, maintenance and modernisation of infrastructure?
2. Does the Commission intend to create dedicated financial mechanisms under the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund to support water-smart technologies and investments in water management?
3. Is the Commission considering the option of prioritising water in existing funding frameworks?

Submitted: 1.10.2025

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(8 December 2025)**

The proposed Performance Regulation (Article 4(2)) ⁽¹⁾ for the 2028-2034 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) ⁽²⁾ provides that all programmes and activities shall achieve an overall spending target of at least 35% for climate action and environment, including water resilience.

The proposal also extends the water intervention fields compared to the current MFF and ensures a consistent application of the 'do no significant harm' principle, benefiting also water resilience.

Efficient water management, water quality and resilience are mentioned among objectives of the main proposed funding programmes.

They are key to the proposed National and Regional Partnership Plans Regulation's goals. The proposed European Competitiveness Fund ⁽³⁾ will also enable to directly invest in water resilience and to use financial instruments to boost investments like, e.g. nature-based solutions.

Water resilience is also an important topic in Research & Innovation. It is at the core of the Mission Oceans and Water ⁽⁴⁾ as well as the Soil ⁽⁵⁾ and the Climate Adaptation ⁽⁶⁾ Missions.

Under the 2021-2027 MFF, as part of the Cohesion policy mid-term review ⁽⁷⁾, water resilience is one of the key priorities. Member States are encouraged to increase 'water resilience' investments, via incentives such as higher co-financing rates.

1 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0545>.

2 https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en.

3 https://commission.europa.eu/publications/european-competitiveness-fund_en.

4 https://maritime-forum.ec.europa.eu/theme/research/mission-ocean-and-waters_en#:~:text=With%20a%202030%20target%2C%20the%20EU%20Mission%20%22Restore,research%20and%20innovation%2C%20citizen%20engagement%20and%20blue%20investments.

5 <https://mission-soil-platform.ec.europa.eu/>.

6 <https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/en/mission/the-mission>.

7 Regulation (EU) 2025/1914 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 September 2025 amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1058 and (EU) 2021/1056 as regards specific measures to address strategic challenges in the context of the mid-term review, OJ L, 2025/1914, 19.9.2025.