

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004563/25
to the Commission**

Rody Tolassy (Pfe), Séverine Werbrouck (Pfe), Marie-Luce Brasier-Clain (Pfe), France Jamet (Pfe), Aleksandar Nikolic (Pfe), Pierre Pimpie (Pfe), Mathilde Androuët (Pfe), Virginie Joron (Pfe), Julien Leonardelli (Pfe)

(17 November 2025)

Subject: Shortcomings of European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and delays to transfers to farmers in the French outermost regions

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) is a central pillar of the common agricultural policy (CAP) and is designed to support sustainable, innovative and resilient farming, including by helping young farmers to establish themselves and by promoting balanced rural development.

In France's outermost regions (ORs), particularly Guadeloupe, the instrument has come up against serious administrative and IT issues, which have led to delays to transfers of aid for more than two years.

The bottlenecks are behind increasing financial distress for farmers, jeopardise the recovery of the farming sector and put at risk economic and social cohesion in already fragile areas. Overcomplicated procedures are pushing the EAFRD away from its original goal: to be a catalyst for rural development and territorial fairness.

In this context, can the Commission say:

1. What specific, urgent measures does it intend to implement to simplify and digitise procedures?
2. How does it intend to speed up the payment of support owed to farmers in the ORs?
3. Does it plan to beef up monitoring and support for regional management authorities so as to preserve the credibility of the CAP and equal treatment of EU territories?

Submitted: 17.11.2025

Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission

(13 January 2026)

The Commission is aware of the delays in the deployment of the IT tools necessary for the payment of applications financed with the contribution of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

It is important to keep in mind that the Member States alone are responsible for deploying these tools. It is also worth noting that these delays concern only payments for interventions not related to the agricultural area. There are no delays in payments for area-related interventions.

As regards interventions not related to the agricultural area, the situation differs depending on the region and the tool chosen for processing the interventions.

In its exchanges with the managing authorities, the Commission has stressed the importance of ensuring that the tools needed to pay the project developers become operational soon. During those exchanges, the managing authorities set out temporary solutions found in agreement with the Services and Payments Agency in order to be able to pay all or part of the amounts due. For example, several managing authorities of the outermost regions informed the Commission that they were processing and paying applications without using the management tool.

We hope that these payment delays will be resolved in the short term thanks to these temporary solutions and once the development of the tools has been finalised.

The Commission is aware of the issues and consequences and is closely monitoring the progress of the implementation of the tools through the regional monitoring committees and annual review meetings.
