

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000388/26
to the Commission
Dimitris Tsiodras (PPE)
(30 January 2026)**

Subject: European Commission actions to strengthen islands' resilience, sustainability and ability to adapt to climate change

Climate change and phenomena such as water scarcity and drought particularly affect islands, burdening their ecosystems and putting their food security, infrastructure and economic sectors such as tourism and agriculture at risk.

The Commission, in its proposal for the next multiannual EU budget (2028-2034), has set a target of committing 35% of available resources to climate and environmental actions, including actions for climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience.

The upcoming European climate change adaptation plan is also an important opportunity for islands to improve their adaptive capacity to ensure their sustainability.

In light of the above:

1. What measures will the Commission take to ensure that the plan responds to islands' needs and that they are protected from the risks of the climate crisis?
2. Does the Commission intend to create specific financial mechanisms to support local governments in implementing strategies to strengthen resilience to climate change and address its consequences?
3. How will the Commission strengthen networking and the development of cooperation mechanisms between municipalities and regions from different countries for the exchange of best practice?

Submitted: 30.1.2026

**Answer given by Mr Hoekstra on behalf of the European Commission
(27 April 2026)**

The Commission committed in the Ocean Pact ⁽¹⁾ to ensure that coastal communities and islands are protected and empowered so that they can adapt to the impacts of climate change. It plans to deliver a strategy on coastal communities and a strategy on islands by mid-2026.

These upcoming strategies will provide a coherent approach towards supporting the development of coastal areas and communities through its sectoral policies, regional policy and planning tools.

The European Integrated Framework for Climate Resilience ⁽²⁾, to be adopted by the end of 2026, will set out a more ambitious, comprehensive and coherent EU approach to climate resilience and preparedness to become better prepared for and more resilient to the inevitable impacts of climate change.

The Commission's proposal for the next multiannual financial framework introduces national and regional partnership plans, combining EU funds implemented by Member States and regions.

They will simplify rules and provide more flexibility to adapt to regional and local needs. Plans will support European objectives, such as promoting climate resilience.

Each plan will have to meet a 43% climate and environment spending target. Moreover, the 'do no significant harm' principle will apply.

The EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change ⁽³⁾ provides support to pioneer regional and local authorities to become climate resilient.

This includes supporting the exchange of good planning practices, technical assistance, funding, as well as implementing and monitoring climate adaptation solutions.

Also, several EU-funded Interreg programmes ⁽⁴⁾ support projects targeting islands and climate adaptation. This topic is also included in the Interreg Plan proposed under the next MFF.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2025) 281 final.

⁽²⁾ https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-other-reads/news/have-your-say-shape-europes-future-world-affected-climate-change-2025-12-01_en.

⁽³⁾ https://mission-adaptation-portal.ec.europa.eu/index_en.

⁽⁴⁾ Such as the EUROMED Interreg programme, Baltic Sea Region Interreg programme.
