

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001414/26
to the Commission
Alexander Bernhuber (PPE)
(8 April 2026)**

Subject: Geographical imbalance in the distribution of AGRIP funding

According to statistics from the European Research Executive Agency for the period 2016-2024, a small number of Member States received a disproportionately large share of funding under the promotion of agricultural products programme (AGRIP). In the 2025 selection round, successful applicants came from only 15 of the 27 Member States, and 74% of the budget targeted markets in just four Member States.

1. How does the Commission assess the fact that almost half of the Member States regularly receive no funding whatsoever under this programme, and does it consider this compatible with the Treaty objective of strengthening the competitiveness of the Union's agricultural sector as a whole?
2. What concrete measures does the Commission intend to take within the current programming period to ensure a more balanced geographical distribution of AGRIP funds across all 27 Member States?

Submitted: 8.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Hansen on behalf of the European Commission
(29 May 2026)**

The Commission has a strong interest in improving geographic balance among beneficiaries of its promotion programmes for agricultural products (AGRIP) and puts significant efforts in pursuit of this goal: information sessions in Member States (Info Days), continuous stakeholder dialogue, multilingual information provision and letters addressed to national authorities to encourage participation.

1. AGRIP calls for proposals are open to applicants from all Member States and the annual work programmes are discussed and voted on in the Committee for the Common Organisation of the Agricultural Markets — Promotion. To strengthen the competitiveness of the Union agricultural sector the Commission believes that effective mechanisms need to be put in place, which ensure that high-quality promotion programmes are being implemented. The Commission regards competitive calls for proposals as a suitable mechanism. Having said this, the Commission is also concerned by the geographic imbalance of AGRIP beneficiaries and undertakes substantial efforts to improve this situation.
 2. One of the reasons for the current geographic imbalance among AGRIP recipients is the different capacity among potential applicants from Member States to submit successful applications. The Commission is considering ways to build capacity in Member States that have historically been underrepresented among AGRIP beneficiaries. Besides this, the Commission will continue its outreach efforts and related activities and will also continue simplification efforts of AGRIP.
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