

EN

E-001594/2026

Answer given by Mr Hansen  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(11.6.2026)

1. The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Strategic Plans (CSP)<sup>1</sup> Regulation provides funding opportunities for irrigation and water saving projects. The Greek CSP supports investments in irrigation with EUR 342 million and in water saving and/or reuse at farm level with EUR 23 million<sup>2</sup>. Based on the principles of shared management applicable to the CAP, the project implementation and monitoring process falls under the responsibility of the Member States. The Commission therefore does not possess information on the cases mentioned by the Honourable Member.

Moreover, the Water Framework Directive<sup>3</sup> allows Member States broad flexibility in setting water pricing and related cost-recovery mechanisms, considering socio-economic, environmental, geographic, and climatic conditions, provided the environmental objectives are met.

2. The Agricultural Block Exemption Regulation (ABER)<sup>4</sup> and the Agricultural state aid Guidelines<sup>5</sup> allow aid for investments in irrigation under specific conditions. In case of severe drought, State aid can also be granted under the ABER and the Guidelines. Support to farmers for the loss of income can be granted under the Agricultural de minimis Regulation<sup>6</sup>. Under the recently adopted simplification package<sup>7</sup>, Member States may introduce interventions in their CSPs to grant crisis payments to farmers, but only following natural disasters, adverse climatic events or catastrophic events, in addition to the already existing CAP support to the restoration of the agricultural production potential.

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<sup>1</sup> Common Agricultural Policy - Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 (OJ L 435, 6.12.2021, pp. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/oj>).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.agrotikianaptixi.gr/category/sskap-2023-2027/sskap-egkrisi-tropopoiiseis/> intervention P3-73-1.1 and P3-73-2.2.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Commission regulation (EU) 2022/2472 of 14 December 2022 declaring certain categories of aid in the agricultural and forestry sectors and in rural areas compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (OJ L 327 21.12.2022, p. 1).

<sup>5</sup> OJ C 485, 21.12.2022, p. 1.

<sup>6</sup> Commission Regulation (EU) No 1408/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid in the agriculture sector, as amended (OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 9).

<sup>7</sup> Regulation (EU) 2025/2649 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2025 amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 as regards the conditionality system, types of intervention in the form of direct payment, types of intervention in certain sectors and rural development and annual performance reports and Regulation (EU) 2021/2116 as regards suspensions of payments, annual performance clearance and controls and penalties, PE/49/2025/REV/1 (OJ L, 2025/2649, 31.12.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/2649/oj>).