

EN

E-002361/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.7.2026)

1. The Commission adopted its first strategy for EU islands¹ on 10 June 2026, recognising the distinct characteristics and specific challenges of these territories. As the forward-looking action, the strategy foresees the organisation of a biennial Islands Forum to promote dialogue between the Commission and island stakeholders, facilitate the exchange of experience and good practices, and take stock of progress in implementing the strategy.

2. The strategy recognises that the effective implementation of EU policies requires sufficient administrative capacity at national, regional and local level. In light of this, the strategy foresees continuation of the support to Member States and island authorities through the Technical Support Instrument², TAIEX-REGIO Peer2Peer³, the European Urban Initiative⁴, the Clean Energy for EU Islands⁵, and regular technical dialogues to facilitate simplification, facilitate the exchange of good practices and reduce administrative burden. Furthermore, the Commission will also continue supporting Member States in tailoring and implementing reforms and investments addressing the needs of islands, including in the context of future National and Regional Partnership Plans.

¹ COM(2026) 520 final: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52026DC0520>.

² https://commission.europa.eu/funding-and-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/technical-support-instrument_en#documents.

³ https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/how/improving-investment/regio-peer-2-peer_en.

⁴ <https://www.urban-initiative.eu/capacity-building>.

⁵ <https://clean-energy-islands.ec.europa.eu/assistance>.