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Answer given by Mr Hansen
on behalf of the European Commission
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A key principle of the proposal for a National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPP)¹ Regulation for the programming period 2028–2034 is to strengthen synergies and complementarities between different sources of EU funding and make them work together more effectively, including in rural areas.

The ring-fenced amount for agricultural income provides for supporting on-farm investments and for the setting up of businesses in the farming sector and in other sectors of the rural economy. In addition, sectoral interventions supports actions such as processing and marketing of agri-food products.

Beyond the ring-fenced amount Member States may support business development, innovation and investments including in food and bioeconomy, both from the NRPP fund and the European Competitiveness Fund. Place based strategies shall be employed to make best use of regional advantages.

The recently adopted EU livestock strategy proposes developing locally integrated livestock value chains and a dedicated roadmap to foster low-capacity and mobile slaughterhouses in rural areas, supported by investments in local processing infrastructure and legislative simplification.

In November 2025, the President of the Commission put forward a rural spending target of 10% of the budget allocation of each NRPP beyond amounts ringfenced for agricultural and fisheries income support. This would be used to support a consistent agenda of measures to address rural needs, building synergies across policy domains. In this context, Member States would be encouraged to invest in local and wider territorial value chains contributing to rural prosperity, including processing of local food products².

¹ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0565R\(01\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52025PC0565R(01)).

² Europe's budget - Publications Office of the EU : https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/69906998-692e-11f1-9b18-01aa75ed71a1/language-en?WT.mc_id=Searchresult&WT.ria_c=164596&WT.ria_f=9791&WT.ria_ev=search&WT.URL=https%3A%2F%2Fagriculture.ec.europa.eu%2F.