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Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.10.2025)

While implementation and disbursements under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) have been fast, notably for non-repayable support, implementation needs to be accelerated in most Member States. Common challenges behind the delays include supply chain disruptions, the energy crisis and limited administrative capacity.

Since all milestones and targets need to be completed by 31 August 2026, the Commission recently¹ put forward options available to Member States to safeguard the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) allocation, in particular the grant component. Member States now need to assess the achievability of all outstanding measures. Meanwhile, the Commission will support Member States to simplify and streamline their RRP.

Italy is progressing with the implementation of its RRP, with seven payment requests positively assessed and disbursed by the Commission so far. The Commission remains in close contact with Italian authorities to foster a smooth finalisation of the Italian RRP, including through the identification of projects at risk. Italy has also been proactive in expediting implementation while maintaining a sound governance of the plan.

The use of NextGenerationEU funds (of which the RRF is part) is strictly limited to NextGenerationEU-related spending. All Member States are urged to review their plans so that only measures that can be achieved by the August 2026 deadline are kept in. If, at the end of the NextGenerationEU programme, any borrowed funds remain unused, the surplus will be temporarily kept in the liquidity buffer until it is used to repay maturing debt. At the same time, to avoid raising more funds than necessary, the Commission plans its borrowing according to the expected disbursement needs, based on information from the Member States.

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council NextGenerationEU - The road to 2026, COM(2025) 310 final/2.