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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Fitto
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.4.2026)

The Commission acknowledges the unique challenges faced by the Canary Islands as an outermost region. The Commission recognises the importance of substantial investment to ensure energy independence and sustainability in these regions.

Regarding the possibility of extending deadlines for implementing projects under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), the Commission notes that such an extension would require as a minimum amendments to the RRF Regulation¹ and the European Union Recovery Instrument (EURI)². As such, the Commission is not able to unilaterally authorise an extension of deadlines under the current legal framework.

The Commission encourages Member States to explore feasible solutions within the existing framework to address implementation challenges. The Communication 'NextGenerationEU - The road to 2026'³ provides guidance on reviewing recovery plans, focusing on measures achievable by the 31 August 2026 deadline, and exploring alternatives such as independently managed grant schemes. The Commission is able to provide technical assistance and advice to Member States in this regard.

The Commission remains committed to supporting the Canary Islands and other outermost regions in achieving their energy transition goals and ensuring the effective use of EU funds. It encourages close coordination with the RRP coordinator and relevant national authorities to address challenges and ensure successful implementation within the established deadlines.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility, OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, pp. 17–75.

² Council Regulation (EU) 2020/2094 of 14 December 2020 establishing a European Union Recovery Instrument to support the recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, OJ L 433I, pp. 23–27.

³ COM/2025/310 final.