

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001900/26
to the Commission
Bartosz Arłukowicz (PPE)
(7 May 2026)**

Subject: The future of support for Fisheries Local Action Groups under the EU's multiannual financial framework for 2028-2034

For years now, Fisheries Local Action Groups have been an effective way of supporting coastal communities and areas that are dependent on fisheries and aquaculture. There are currently 24 such groups in Poland, bringing together more than 1 000 entities in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, around 200 local authorities, more than 500 companies and around 300 community and environmental organisations. They represent around 1.5 million people, and almost 20% of Poland's territory.

The groups create jobs, support small businesses, enable fishers to diversify their activities, promote local culture and make efforts to combat depopulation in coastal areas. Just one local group in Mielno has completed 145 projects worth almost PLN 16 million, creating and maintaining jobs and developing social and education infrastructure.

1. Is the Commission intending to guarantee increased financial support for Fisheries Local Action Groups under the EU's multiannual financial framework for 2028-2034, particularly in the context of making coastal regions more resilient and developing the blue economy?
2. Is the Commission looking to strengthen the role of Fisheries Local Action Groups in future cohesion policy and under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund?

Submitted: 7.5.2026

**Answer given by Mr Kadis on behalf of the European Commission
(10 June 2026)**

The Commission proposal for a regulation establishing the European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security 2028-2034 ⁽¹⁾ includes the support of community-led local development (CLLD), which will be financed under the overall envelope of EUR 453 billion (unallocated funds).

The proposed Regulation requires the National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPP) to contribute effectively to the promotion of cooperation interventions, including integrated territorial investment in coastal areas, CLLD development or other territorial tools, as well as Leader.

The entire CLLD approach (territorial strategies, local public-partnership, innovation, cooperation, networking) will remain legally binding and the exclusive functions of local action groups will remain unchanged.

Fisheries and rural areas often overlap, creating the potential for synergies between instruments to fund CLLD strategies. However, the use of multi-fund CLLD in coastal areas is limited today because each fund is managed separately. This limitation should disappear with a single Fund framework.

The NRPPs' integrated programming will facilitate the implementation of CLLD activities across coastal and rural areas. Territorial development strategies may adopt a broader approach by exploiting synergies between sectors.

Different governance structures, Managing Authorities, networks and specialist expertise can be brought to the local level in an integrated manner (social policies, employment, education, regional, rural development, fisheries). In this concrete way, CLLD development in coastal-rural areas could support a whole array of actions across policy areas.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2025) 565 final.