





Basic information	
<p>2024/0274(COD)</p> <p>COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation</p>	Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
<p>Specific measures under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) to provide additional assistance to Member States affected by natural disasters</p> <p>Amending Regulation 2020/2220 2019/0254(COD)</p> <p>Subject</p> <p>3.10.01.02 Rural development, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) 3.70.11 Natural disasters, Solidarity Fund</p>	

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Agriculture and Rural Development		Chair on behalf of committee VRECI NOVÁ Veronika (ECR)	19/11/2024
	Committee for budgetary assessment		Rapporteur for budgetary assessment	Appointed
	 Budgets		SOUSA SILVA Hélder (EPP)	13/11/2024
Council of the European Union				
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner	
	Agriculture and Rural Development		WOJCIECHOWSKI Janusz	
European Economic and Social Committee				

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
21/10/2024	Legislative proposal published	COM(2024)0495 	Summary
13/11/2024	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
13/11/2024	Urgent procedure requested by a committee		
14/11/2024	Vote scheduled		
03/12/2024	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
05/12/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A10-0026/2024	

Forecasts	
17/12/2024	Indicative plenary sitting date, 1st reading

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2024/0274(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Nature of procedure	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amending Regulation 2020/2220 2019/0254(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 170 Rules of Procedure EP 58 Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 294-p7-ac Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 043-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Parliament's position in 1st reading
Committee dossier	AGRI/10/01236

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Amendments tabled in committee		PE765.352	14/11/2024	
Committee draft report		PE766.620	19/11/2024	
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE765.331	02/12/2024	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A10-0026/2024	05/12/2024	
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	COM(2024)0495 	21/10/2024	Summary	

Specific measures under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) to provide additional assistance to Member States affected by natural disasters

2024/0274(COD) - 21/10/2024 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to provide additional assistance and further flexibility to Member States affected by natural disasters to help them cope with the consequences of the devastating effects of the current natural disasters on the Union agri-food and forestry sector.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: the recent natural disasters in Central and Eastern as well as in Southern Europe have had a devastating effect on the rural populations living and working in these regions. A considerable amount of agricultural and forestry production potential has been destroyed, with important losses of income.

In order to quickly address vulnerabilities of the European food system and rural communities resulting from these disasters, it is appropriate to rapidly provide **exceptional effective support through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)** implemented under rural development programmes and provide for more flexibility for the existing measures.

In order to provide additional assistance and further flexibility to Member States affected by natural disasters, the Commission proposes a new measure and more flexibility in relation to the non-regression threshold provided for in Regulation (EU) 2020/2220 of the European Parliament and of the Council for a budgetary reinforcement of investments in restoration of agricultural potential as well as for funding the new measure.

CONTENT: the proposal is limited to a targeted amendment of Regulation (EU) 2020/2220. It complements all other measures aimed at addressing the current situation taken by the Union, in particular those measures aimed at providing liquidity.

In order to provide additional assistance and further flexibility as regards the non-regression threshold to Member States affected by natural disasters it is proposed to amend Regulation (EU) 2020/2220 to:

- introduce a new measure to allow Member States to **provide liquidity support to farmers, forest holders and SMEs active in processing of agricultural and forestry products** affected by natural disasters occurring as of 1 January 2024. The support is paid in form of a lump sum. The new measure can be co-financed up to 100% with EAFRD and the maximum share of Union contribution is 10% of the total EAFRD contribution to the rural development programme for the years 2021-2022. The support should be provided only to those beneficiaries which were affected by a destruction of at least 30% of the relevant production potential;

- provide **limited flexibility** regarding the non-regression clause when reallocating funds to the new measure or to measures for restoring production potential;

- give Member States the possibility to simplify procedures by considering the whole area to be gravely affected by a natural disaster when applying for "force majeure";

- allow Member States to select for support operations that have been physically completed or fully implemented before the application for funding when linked to restoration or liquidity payments.

Budgetary implications

The proposal concerns the EAFRD rural development programmes for the 2014-2022 period and does not modify existing budgetary commitments. It remains within the limits of the overall allocation for the period 2014-2022 and is therefore budgetary neutral.

The total annual breakdown of commitment appropriations under EAFRD remains unchanged. Payments to beneficiaries will be made before 31 December 2025, and hence will be financed under the 2025, 2026 and 2027 budget.

The payment appropriations needed to finance this measure are to be accommodated within the appropriations for the EAFRD included in the Commission's forthcoming Draft Budget 2025 and will be offset by a corresponding decrease in payment needs in subsequent years.