



# EU4U

European Union  
Structural Funds  
Programme  
for Malta 2004 - 2006

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Structural Funds Programme for Malta 2004-2006  
Project part-financed by the European Union - European Regional Development Fund  
Co-financing rate: 75% EU; 25% Government of Malta



# Benefits of EU Structural Funds 2004-2006

A better environment for all of us

Investing in Gozo

Building a stronger infrastructure

Developing people

Strengthening enterprise

Supporting agriculture and fisheries

## The EU Structural Funds in Malta



**Marlene Bonnici**  
Director General PPCD

Malta is implementing 82 projects under the Structural Funds allocation for 2004-2006 (€63.2 million). A substantial amount of money has been earmarked towards upgrading the country's infrastructure in the sectors of environment, transport, education, enterprise, tourism and fisheries. In all, 44 projects are focusing on human resource development. A total of 370 enterprises are benefiting from 9 aid schemes targeting the manufacturing, tourism, agriculture and fisheries sectors.

The project results are now becoming more visible. The biggest challenge of Structural Fund implementation is reaching targets within the restrictions of the relevant regulatory package and also succeeding to implement projects in time.

The planning and co-ordination of this task is the responsibility of my Division, the Planning and Priorities Co-Ordination Division (PPCD) within the Office of the Prime Minister, which is the designated Managing Authority for Structural Funds. PPCD monitors progress on the ground in order to ensure that targets are reached.

We are now pleased to note that our hard work is registering tangible results. Malta has met all its targets in terms of financial expenditure and the implementation system has also been praised as an example of good practice. This is an achievement for PPCD and for all its partner organisations.

This booklet aims to show some of Malta's achievements during the 2004-2006 programming period, as well as to give citizens some updated information on the progress registered to date.

Further information and updates on the Structural Funds can be obtained from our website: [www.ppcd.gov.mt](http://www.ppcd.gov.mt) and [www.eu4u.gov.mt](http://www.eu4u.gov.mt).

## Strengthening Malta through EU Structural Funds

Malta is entering a new and exciting phase in its history, based on Government's vision of Malta as a dynamic economy founded on competence, skills and excellence. At present, we are implementing a strategy which aims to stimulate economic growth, improve the environment, facilitate enterprise and encourage tourism and investment, while ensuring a better quality of life for all.



**Hon. Lawrence Gonzi**  
Prime Minister of Malta

The Structural Funds Programme for Malta 2004-2006 has been contributing significantly to this vision by ensuring that we are in a position to make full use of our excellent resources and of all the new opportunities available. At the start, many believed that Malta would not manage to absorb the Funds. Three years on we are seeing the tangible results of our decisions.

This booklet gives a taster of the projects that have been implemented with the first wave of Structural Funds in Malta. The new infrastructure in transport, environment and the productive sector is making the country more vibrant, competitive and an attractive place to live and visit. The investments in human resource development also aim to ensure that all Maltese and Gozitans have the opportunity to reach their full potential in terms of personal development and achievement and that our society encourages participation, growth and inclusion.

As far as the 2007-2013 period is concerned, my Government has fought hard to ensure that it gets its fair share of funding and will be on the forefront to ensure that the new Funds will continue to build upon the achievements of the 2004-2006 period.

# A better environment for all of us

- Establishment of 300 bring-in-sites for the separate collection of household waste with an average ratio of one site per 320 households. Setting up of 5 civic amenity sites (four in Malta and one in Gozo) for the collection of bulky items.
- Control of aerial emissions through installation of equipment for Maghtab, Qortin and Wied Fulija Landfills, and initial rehabilitation of the three landfill sites.
- An integrated educational campaign on waste separation and management aimed at school children, small enterprises and local council employees.
- Upgrading of the sewage transmission infrastructure in the south of Malta.
- Acquisition of air monitoring equipment to improve our air quality.
- Improvement of the quality of drinking water in our taps, better management of fresh water.
- Marine scientific surveys around Filfla for conservation of its marine habitats and species.
- Restoration of the natural environment and rubble walls in Wied il-Mielah, one of Gozo's most scenic valleys.

*TOTAL EU Share (ERDF) = 73%*





# Investing in Gozo

- Promotion of Gozo as a diving destination through the scuttling of two diving wrecks to create an artificial dive site as well as the setting up of a Hyperbaric Unit at Gozo's General Hospital to host a mono-recompression chamber to treat divers suffering from diving accidents.\*
- Display showcases at the Museum of Archaeology for better preservation and visual presentation of the artefacts of the Brockdorff Circle.\*
- New vocational programmes by the University of Malta - Gozo Centre on agricultural studies, e-commerce, IT, environment planning and management, and business studies. To date 48 persons have been trained and a further set of courses is being offered in 2007.\*\*
- 23 ETC courses in the tourism industry and 3 schemes which aim to: improve employment opportunities for Gozitan graduates; to assist unemployed people wishing to set up their own business; and to assist the Gozitan SMEs in their Information and Communications Technology (ICT) requirements. 137 persons benefited from this project which resulted in 51 jobs.\*\*
- 18 new crafts courses for sustainable careers in Gozo. As at end of 2006, 150 people have been trained.\*\*
- Extension of the Centre of Art & Crafts, and the setting up of a Crafts Development Centre, to create new vocational training opportunities, support for business start-ups and more job opportunities in Gozo.\*
- Reconstruction and modernization of the Training Institute for Tourism Studies (ITS) in Qala to strengthen the tourism industry in Gozo.\*
- Upgrade of the infrastructure at Ta' Dbiegi Crafts Village to attract more investment.\*
- Reconstruction of the Rabat – San Lawrenz Road for improved and safer accessibility.\*

\*TOTAL EU Share (ERDF) = 75%

\*\*TOTAL EU Share (ESF) = 75%





# Building a stronger infrastructure

- Upgrading and Improvement of Bulebel and Hal Far Industrial Estates to attract further investment.
- Reconstruction of 3km of Hal Far road to enable easier access between the Freeport and the Airport.
- Reconstruction and upgrading of Manuel Dimech Bridge.
- Monitoring equipment for port security and border control.
- Embellishment of Howard Gardens in Mdina.
- Setting-up of shelters to protect Hagar Qim and Mnajdra Temples together with the construction of a visitors' centre which will be accessible to all.\*
- Extension of the ETC's Skills Development Centre to increase the capacity of educational facilities, thus enabling more jobseekers and persons already in employment to develop their skills.
- Improvement of MCAST facilities at Corradino and in Gozo through the construction of additional floors and a childcare centre, as well as the upgrading of the library and resource centre.
- Provision of equipment at MCAST for an Automotive Lab and Automotive Engineering Workshop to cater for 100 students per annum.

*TOTAL EU Share (ERDF) = 75%*

*\*TOTAL EU Share (ERDF) = 63%*

# Developing people

- Financing of training and mobility grants to strengthen local research and development and innovation capabilities of public and private sector organisations.
- Training and human resources development programmes targeting needs of direct employment into the tourism and support service industries.
- Over 900 persons were trained at MCAST in various subjects and areas such as engineering, electronics and construction, entrepreneurial skills, and traditional Maltese crafts.
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills for teachers, unemployed people and persons with a disability, together with the setting-up of two computer labs one in Malta and the other in Gozo.
- Training unemployed people in waste separation at source and in energy-saving to disseminate the information to households around Malta and Gozo, the latter exclusively targeting low income households.

- Setting-up of a structured post qualification specialist training programme for doctors.
- Training and certification of youths leaving institutional care to help them learn a range of approved skills and trades.
- 15 inclusion co-ordinators were trained in the education and care necessary for pupils with special needs.
- Over 200 basic courses were held within 17 different learning centres around Malta and Gozo jointly reaching over 2,000 participants and employing over 50 trainers.
- Basic training and Literacy programme for unemployed persons and adults who are not in possession of certified qualifications.
- Around 285 registered unemployed persons over 40 years of age found employment with the aid of the ETC's Training and Employment Exposure Scheme (TEES).
- Schemes for the unemployed, disabled persons, early school leavers, single mothers, women, persons made redundant, over 40s, the socially secluded amongst others to re-integrate / to be introduced in the labour market.

*TOTAL EU Share (ESF) = 75%*



# Developing people

## *Empowering Women*

- Increasing the participation and advancement of women in the labour market via promotional campaigns promoting also family friendly measures and quality childcare.
- Study and training programme on improving the representation of women at specialist and managerial levels in the public hospital.
- Research on equality issues in Maltese legislation.
- Over 200 women are being trained in technology and entrepreneurial skills.
- Around 130 women have been certified as child carers.

TOTAL EU Share (ESF) = 75%



# Strengthening enterprise

- Support for enterprises in the industry and tourism sector through two aid schemes:
  - Grant scheme for tourism enterprises through marketing initiatives, upgrading IT infrastructure, accessibility to travelers with mobility problems, and environmental initiatives.\*
  - Project financing enterprises by means of assistance in management competences, marketing, trade development and innovative processes, products and services. Activities supported include participation in international exhibitions and trade fairs, carrying out of marketing plans, creation and establishment of product branding, refurbishment of outlets and upgrading of technology.\*
- Enhancing the competitiveness of Small-Medium Enterprises and Micro-enterprises, including facilitation through lifelong learning.\*\*
- Enhancing the skills of the human resource complement of tourism related support services.\*\*

\*TOTAL EU Share (ERDF) = 35%

\*\*TOTAL EU Share (ESF) = 75%



# Supporting agriculture and fisheries

- Investment in agriculture holdings to support interventions related to farm business including improvement in production efficiency and technology, animal waste collection, hygiene and welfare systems, farm machinery or equipment and water collection and distribution systems.\*
- Improving the processing and marketing of agricultural products by strengthening the agricultural sector.\*
- Fleet renewal and modernisation targeting the improvement of sanitary conditions; safer deck machinery; more selective fishing gear; the installation of modern navigation equipment; and the refurbishment of fishing vessels.\*\*\*
- Modernisation and improvement of the processing facilities of existing aquaculture units.\*\*\*
- Investment in the port amenities in Marsaxlokk by providing dry standing facilities and new crainage facilities in the 'Tal-Qrajten' area to enable the general maintenance of vessels in a safer environment.\*\*
- Upgrading of existing processing facilities with investment in the marketing and processing of fish products.\*\*\*
- Provision of cold storage facilities in Xewkija Gozo to allow fishermen to maintain the quality of fisheries produce until it is marketed and also maintain hygiene and health standards.\*\*

\*TOTAL EU Share (EAGGF) = 35%

\*\*TOTAL EU Share (FIFG) = 75%

\*\*\* TOTAL EU Share (FIFG) = 35%

