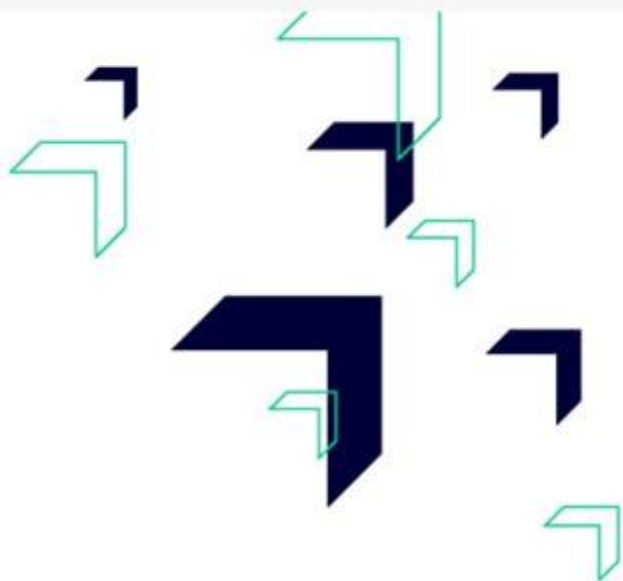


CAP Strategic Plan for Malta 2023-2027



**Co-funded by
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CAP Strategic Plan

➤ Covers:

- **EAGF** - European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (Pillar 1, Direct Payments);
- **EAFRD** - European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (Pillar 2, Rural Development);
- **Support for Apiculture;**

➤ Total budget: Eur **166mn** (EU+MT);

Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan - Malta

Direct Payments

Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS)

- Aims to support viable farm income in view of the unique challenges faced by Malta's farmers;
- Continues to build on previous annual decoupled payments per eligible hectare;
- Payment rate enhanced compared to the 2014 – 2022 period.

Direct Payments

Coupled Income Support (CIS)

- Aimed at supporting highly disadvantaged sectors by improving their competitiveness, sustainability or quality;
- Continued support targeting the beef, dairy, sheep and tomatoes (for processing) sectors;
- Will consist of an annual payment per eligible head or hectare.

Direct Payments

Schemes for the Climate, the Environment and Animal Welfare (Eco-schemes)

- Aim to support farmers who voluntarily make commitments to observe practices beneficial for climate change, protection and improvement of water quality and prevention of soil degradation amongst others;
- Some example of eco schemes:
 - ***Integrated Pest Management Plan***: encouraging farmers to adopt an IPMP on their holding, encouraging controlled use of Plant Protection Products.

Apiculture Programme

Apiculture Programme

- Aims to support the beekeeping sector through a number of actions, including, amongst others:
 - advisory and training;
 - investments combatting beehive invaders and diseases, in particular varroasis;
 - restocking of beehives and measures rationalising transhumance;
 - research actions and support for labs.

.Rural Development

Management Commitments

- Payments granted annually to farmers who voluntarily undertake management commitments that are beneficial to the environment and that exceed baseline legislation, for a period of five years;
- Four schemes shall be supported through the CAP SP:
 - 1. *Support for the maintenance of newly planted recommended tree species:*** encourage farmers to maintain trees on their holding and carry out the necessary interventions to ensure they are provided with the necessary environment to thrive;
 - 2. *Control weeds in orchards and vineyards by mechanical, instead of chemical methods and green cover:*** aims to reduce the use of herbicides on agricultural holdings, therefore reducing the impact on soil and biodiversity;
 - 3. *Introduction of bee boxes on holdings:*** shall incentivise farmers to set up bee boxes on their holding and to support established beekeepers;
 - 4. *Implementation of soil management and conservation plan:*** aims to increase organic content of the soil and promote sustainable use of soil and its preservation.

Rural Development

Organic farming

- Annual payments for farmers aiming to convert their holding to organic farming and to those who have already been granted organic status and aim to maintain;
- Significant increase in support rates compared to the 2014 – 2020 period
 1. **Conversion to organic farming:** annual payments for conversion shall apply for a maximum of two years;
 2. **Maintenance of organic farming:** annual support for farmers to maintain organic farming practices for a minimum of 5 years.

Rural Development

Animal Welfare

- Payments granted annually, to livestock breeders who voluntarily undertake management commitments that aim to improve the welfare of animals, exceeding baseline legislation, for a period of five years;
- One animal welfare scheme shall be supported through the CAP SP:
 - *Animal welfare scheme for broilers*: aims to incentivize broiler breeders to improve broiler welfare by reducing the stocking density during the growing period, support rate of €0.35c per head.

Rural Development

Genetic Resources

Integration and maintenance of autochthonous Maltese species

- Support will be provided in the form of annual payments for the conservation of indigenous tree and animal species, namely:
 - Carob (harrub) and (White/ Black) Mulberry (cawsla and tuta);
 - Maltese Black Chicken;
 - Maltese Ox.

Support for conservation and sustainable use and development of genetic resources in agriculture

- Aimed at supporting plant and animal species vulnerable to genetic erosion;
- Support for conservation-type operations, promoting ex situ and in situ conservation, characterisation, collection and utilisation of genetic resources in agriculture.

Rural Development

Natural and other area specific constraints (ANC)

- This scheme provides eligible beneficiaries with an annual payment, aimed to address the specific constraints faced by agriculture production in Malta, to ensure continued agricultural land use across rural areas;
- This intervention has been offered in previous programming periods, covering all agricultural land across Malta's entire territory, since EU accession in 2004.

Rural Development

Young Farmers (YF)

Start-up aid – Grant

- Aimed at supporting young farmers through the provision of start-up aid in the form of a lump sum to be used for the implementation of a business plan, through which, the farmer will set up as the head of the agricultural holding;
- The support rate shall be of up to *€100,000 per YF*.

Financial Instrument

- Loans aimed at supporting young farmers specifically in the purchase of agricultural land, subject to the submission of a business plan.

Rural Development

Non-productive investments (cont.)

On-farm and Off-farm non-productive investments and afforestation

- Aims to contribute to the conservation of existing woodland and support new planting of trees, to improve habitats and biodiversity;
- Supports the establishing, restoring, or re-instating of rural infrastructure including the restoration and/or establishment of rubble walls, the creation and/or restoration of various terrestrial habitats;
- Support may also be provided for the rehabilitation of valleys;
- Support for the planting of trees and ancillary works non on agricultural parcels.

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Rural Development

Productive Investments

On-farm productive investments

- Aims to support investments in agricultural holdings to improve competitiveness of holdings and their environmental performance;
- Support may be provided for investments in farm modernisation, purchase of resource efficient equipment, smart irrigation equipment, investments in precision farming, detection of diseases through investments in antimicrobial resistance and upgrades to the National Veterinary Laboratory, investments in greenhouses, interventions related to handling of manures and slurries, preventive measures aimed at reducing the impact of extreme weather events, improvements in the welfare conditions of farmed animals, and diversification by established farmers.

Rural Development

Productive Investments (cont.)

Off-farm productive investments

- This intervention aims to fund productive off-farm investments related to processing and/or development of agricultural products;
- Farmers, other businesses, public entities, and land managers shall be eligible for support under this intervention.

Rural Development

Off-farm Infrastructure

Water

Aims to support investments that take place off the farm but which are of benefit to the agricultural sector;

- Intervention is expected to support the extension of the 'New Water' network

Rural Roads

- Aims to support investments in the upgrade and modernisation of rural roads in rural areas, to improve accessibility of farmers to their holdings.

Rural Development

Cooperation

EIP Operational Groups - support horizontal and vertical cooperation among supply chain actors with regards to short supply chains, local markets, sustainable use of biomass for use in food and energy production, and support for pilot projects for the development of new products, practices, processes and techniques.

Quality Schemes - support eligible beneficiaries to participate in quality schemes for products, including those subscribed to the Products of Quality National Scheme, existing or new PDO or PGI-labelled products for Malta, and organic farming if applicable.

Rural Development

Cooperation (cont.)

LEADER

- Aims to provide support for the LEADER programme that will be implemented by Local Action Groups;
- The same LAGS of the RDP 2014-2020 were also selected for the new CAP SP
- The following are the LAGS for Malta
 - Majjistral Action Group
 - Gal Xlokk Foundation
 - Gozo Action Group Foundation

Rural Development

Knowledge exchange and dissemination of information

- Support may be provided for vocational training, education, skills acquisition actions, knowledge transfer such as training and farm advisory services;
- Training and farm advisory services will target increasing economic viability of the farms, improving competitiveness, sustainable and efficient use of resources, protection of biodiversity, animal welfare and improved environmental awareness, amongst others.

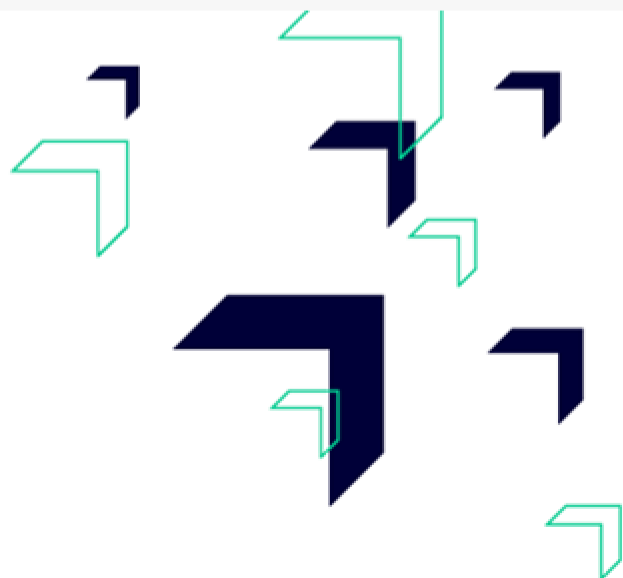
State of Play of CAP SP Interventions

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Thank you !

<https://fondi.eu/programme/common-agricultural-policy-strategic-plan/>



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