



GOVERNMENT  
OF MALTA



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# BiċċerijaTrain

## EAFRD 2014 – 2020



Co-funded by  
the European Union



# BicčerijaTrain

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An EU Funded Project  
under EAFRD 2014 – 2020  
headed by the Public  
Abattoir



# The Project at a Glance

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- EU Funded Project - €165,257.75 Spent
- Educational initiatives targeting farmers
- Project comprised of 8 courses
- Total Unique Applicants Across Project: 194 People
- Training Tailored by Experts to Maltese Context



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## Objectives of the Project

- Valorisation of Local Meat Products & By-Products
  - Introduction of New Agricultural Products to the Market
  - Food-Waste Reduction
  - Raise Quality of Maltese Products
  - Prepare Farmers with Necessary Skills for Shifting Markets
  - Lower Environmental footprint
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# Creative Thinking For Livestock Breeding

- Prof. Margaret Mangion
- November 2024 – December 2025
- Trained Farmers in utilisation of their available resources
- Farmers were able by end of course to develop ideas for new products to market from their existing stock.
- Outcome translates into a smaller ecological footprint.
- 9 Participants
- €1,603.80



# Organic Pig Rearing

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- April & July 2025
- Specialised Training in Ireland
- Focus on Organic Pig Rearing
- Preparation for Farmers to meet new market demands
- Practical and Theoretical aspects covered
- Compliments the Abattoir's acquisition of Organic Certification
- 30 Participants
- €56,488.50



# Parchment-Making Course / *Parċmina*

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- October 2024 & March – May 2025
- Dr. Jiri Vnousek
- Revitalise Maltese Tradition
- Utilise Previously Discarded By-Product
- Cost Savings for Abattoir and Notary Archives Foundation
- Significant reduction in waste burning
- Lead to Project GILDUZA
- 18 Participants
- €4,365.90





# Pork Crackling / *Qriemeč* Training

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- April, May, November 2025
- Revitalise Traditional Snack
- Open Pig Farmers to New Markets
- Use previously discarded By-products
- Circular Economic Principles Put Into Practise
- 2 Participants
- €237.60





# Quality Management in the Meat Industry

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- Mr. Horace Micallef
- Involved all Abattoir Sections
- Comprehensive look at management beyond hygiene
- Training in quality assurance
- 113 Participants
- €33,561.00



# Sheep and Goat Deboning Course

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- Chef Michael Cauchi and Chef Yanick Schembri
- Preparation for expected increased demand in ovine meat
- Goat farmers showed great interest and attended
- Abattoir Butchers all completed course
- 45 Participants
- €10,068.30





# Traditional Maltese Foods

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- Collaboration with UOM Institute of Maltese Studies.
- IMS – Prof. Carmel Cassar
- Lectures delivered by a variety of Professors / Experts
- Theoretical course covering the history, marketing, preparation and cultural dimension of Maltese Food
- Accredited Course at MQF Level 4
- 9 Participants
- €12,310.65





# Valorisation of Maltese Goat Course

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- Mr. Darryl Grech (Malta)
- Various Lecturers (Enna)
- Course held in Enna, Sicily
- Aimed at exploring the different products being produced from the *capra Maltese*
- Great interest from Maltese Goat Farmers
- 29 Participants
- €46,622.00



# Main Challenges & Feedback

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- Discrepancy between applied participants and actual attendance.
- Last minute withdrawal of applications
- Limited experts due to niche subjects
- Certain courses were deemed intense



# Lessons Learned

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- Adopted Conservative Estimates
- Course schedules tailored around target audience
- Hands-On over theoretical approaches





# The Way Forward

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- Commitment to Further Education
- Positive Feedback from Farmers
- Continued Support for our local farmers
- Further Pilot Projects Underway





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# Thank You!



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