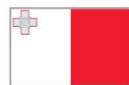


Eligibility and Selection Criteria 2014-2020

Operational Programme I
Fostering a Competitive and Sustainable Economy to
Meet our Challenges

**Monitoring
Committee Meeting**

13th March 2015



European Union
European Structural and Investment Funds



Project Selection Processes for Mainstream Projects

The selection of mainstream projects involves:

- The launch of open calls for project proposals by the MA;
- The preparation of the application forms and guidance notes;
- The publication of the calls in the media, on the website of the MA as well as other Government websites;
- The organisation of information sessions for interested applicants by the MA;
- The online submission of application forms by interested applicants.

Project Selection Processes for Mainstream Projects (2)

The selection of the mainstream projects involves:

- The setting up of the Project Selection Committee (PSC), which may include Public and/or non public service officers. *Ad hoc* experts may be invited to support the Committee in its deliberations;
- The MA will provide the Secretariat of the PSC.

Project Eligibility and Selection Criteria

The criteria for the selection of mainstream projects are divided as follows:

- **Eligibility Criteria** which consist in a gateway assessment which ensures that all applications have reached a minimum standard;
- **Selection Criteria** which are designed to assess the fit and contribution of project proposals with the OP strategy, its target groups, and its objectives.

Eligibility Criteria

- **Complete application form** - all relevant details and support documentation must be provided;
- **Project remit within mandate of Beneficiary** - applicants must be publicly mandated (or authorised by virtue of their statute in the case of NGOs) to carry out activities planned under the proposed project;
- **Project Leader must be from Beneficiary Organisation** - the direct association of the PL with the beneficiary organisations is fundamental to ensure that the grant will exclusively be used for the purpose stipulated in the project proposal;
- **Project must be implemented within/for the direct benefit of the eligible territory** - the eligible territory of OPI is the whole territory of the Republic of Malta;

Eligibility Criteria (2)

- **Proof of co-financing (where applicable);**
- **Contribution towards Investment Priorities (IP)** - Projects must address one or more of the relevant IP of the OP as specified in the call;
- **The project is in line with the relevant Specific Objective and expected results of selected IP** - project must contribute towards at least one of the specific objectives of the selected IP and towards the related expected result/s;
- **Contribution towards one indicator** - project must contribute towards at least one of the relevant OP indicators.

Selection Criteria

- **Contribution towards indicators beyond the minimum requirement** - assessed in terms of further contribution towards the OP indicators beyond the minimum required (i.e. for eligibility purposes);
- **Project Sustainability** - assessed in terms of how the benefits of the project will continue to be delivered after the grant has ended;
- **Readiness** - assessed in terms of stages of tender preparation and submission of studies supporting the proposal (where applicable);
- **Capacity of Organisation** - assessed both in terms of adequate human resources, as well as previous positive experience in the implementation of EU projects, preferably Structural Funds/Cohesion Fund or similar;

Selection Criteria (2)

- **Quality of the Application Form** - assessed in terms of, amongst others, coherence between different sections of the proposals; adequate description of the main activities; budget in line with the activities; general presentation of the proposals;
- **Contribution to development needs** - applicant should demonstrate that the proposed project is adequately addressing the relevant development need(s) as identified in OP;
- **Potential of project to contribute to the achievement of expected results**
 - PSC will assess the results expected to be achieved through the implementation of the approved operation in terms of the solutions and risks that can hinder the achievement of the identified results.

Selection Criteria (3)

- **Horizontal Priorities** - assessment of how the project addresses the horizontal priorities of Sustainability Development and Equal opportunities;
- **Carbon Impact and Climate Change mitigation and adaption** - assessment based on the extent to which the application incorporates measures to improve Air Quality, Sustainable Water Management and Climate change mitigation and adaptation.

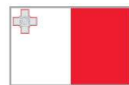
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