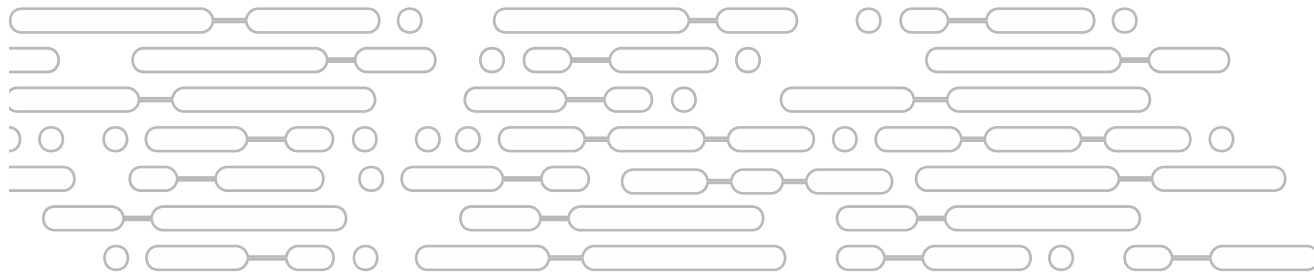


PROGRAMMING OF EUROPEAN UNION FUNDS FOR MALTA 2021-2027



ERDF/CF/JTF Programme
ESF+ Programme

24th November 2022



GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA

MINISTRY FOR THE ECONOMY,
EUROPEAN FUNDS AND LANDS

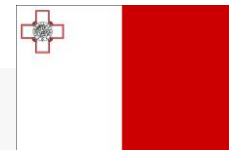
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT
FOR EUROPEAN FUNDS

ERDF/CF/JTF Programme

- Covers 3 Funds: ERDF, CF, JTF
- 5 Policy Objectives of the CPR reflected through 9 Priorities in the Programme.
- Total budget: Eur 994m (EU+MT)
- Adopted by the European Commission on 21 October 2022

Objective: Strengthen capacities in sectors falling within the scope of the ERDF, CF and JTF Regulations with the objective of improving and adapting to new and emerging needs.

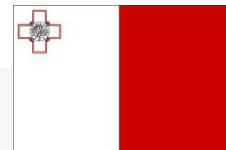
**Towards a smarter, well connected and resilient economy,
a greener environment and an integrated society**



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Programme Structure

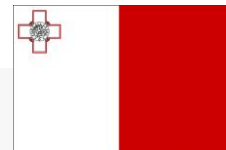
	Policy Objectives (PO)	Priority	Fund
PO 1	A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity	Priority 1	ERDF
PO 2	A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, risk prevention and management, and sustainable urban mobility	Priority 2 Priority 5 Priority 6	ERDF CF CF
PO 3	A more connected Europe by enhancing mobility	Priority 7	CF
PO 4	A more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights	Priority 3	ERDF
PO 5	A Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all type of territories and local initiatives	Priority 4	ERDF
	JTF - Just Transition	Priority 8	JTF
	Technical Assistance (TA) (ERDF)	Priority 9	
5 Policy Objectives + Transition objective + TA		9 Priorities	



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What's new?

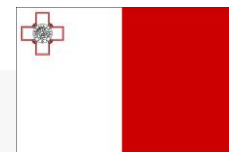
- i. Different co-financing rates:
 - ERDF: 60% (EU share) – 40% (MT share)
 - CF: 85% (EU share) – 15% (MT share)
 - JTF: 70% (EU share) – 30% (MT share)
- ii. The Just Transition Plan, as part of the ERDF/CF/JTF Programme
- iii. A Priority dedicated for Gozo (whilst maintaining the 10% earmarking across cohesion policy funds)
- iv. Projects of Strategic Importance
- v. The Do No Significant Harm Principle – initiatives foreseen assessed at programme level
- vi. Different regulatory parameters, EU ambitions, national socio-economic realities



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Regulatory Parameters for the 2021-2027 Programming Period

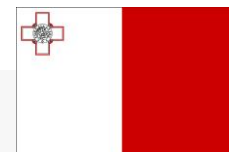
Policy Area Concerned	Regulatory Parameters	% in MT Programme
Policy Objective 1	Min. 25% ERDF	25.37%
Policy Objective 2	Min. 30% ERDF	41%
Sustainable Urban Development	Min. 8% ERDF	8%
Climate Targets	Min. 30% ERDF	30%
	Min. 37% CF	48%
	100% JTF	100%
Biodiversity earmarking at EU level		7%



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Gozo's Development Needs

- The Programme will aim to address territorial disparities between Malta and Gozo.
- Building on previous programming periods, the programme underlines the commitment to earmark for Gozo at least **10%** of all cohesion policy and agriculture funds.
- Under ERDF Gozo will be addressed both horizontally as well as in a targeted manner through an allocation of 8% of the Fund earmarked for Gozo's sustainable urban development.



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Priority 1:

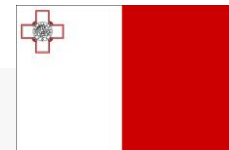
A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity

SO (i) *Developing and enhancing **research and innovation** capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies*

Types of potential interventions:

- Public sector investment in R&I
- Supporting private sector investment in R&I

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 25 million



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Priority 1:

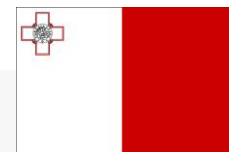
A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity (cont.)

SO(ii) *Reaping the benefits of **digitisation** for citizens, companies, research organisations and public authorities*

Types of potential interventions:

- Supporting digitalisation in economic sectors
- Digitalisation of public administration and entities
- Digitalisation of the Health Sector

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 74.8 million



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Priority 1:

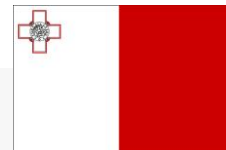
A more competitive and smarter Europe by promoting innovative and smart economic transformation and regional ICT connectivity (cont.)

SO(iii) *Enhancing sustainable growth and competitiveness of SMEs and job creation in SMEs, including by productive investments*

Types of potential interventions:

- Developing a Business Incubation Centre and industrial facilities
- Non-repayable grants for the private sector to stimulate start-ups and enhance business growth
- Increasing access to finance through Financial Instruments

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 84.3 million



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Priority 2:

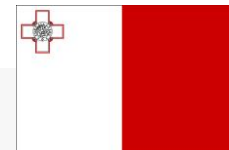
Promoting clean and fair energy transition, sustainable wastewater management and green investment

SO(i) *Promoting **energy efficiency** and reducing greenhouse gas emissions*

Types of potential interventions:

- Financial instrument to support industry and households to invest in energy efficiency

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 10 million



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Priority 2:

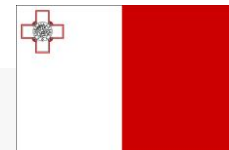
Promoting clean and fair energy transition, sustainable wastewater management and green investment (cont.)

SO(ii) *Promoting **renewable energy** in accordance with Renewable Energy Directive (EU) 2018/2001, including the sustainability criteria set out therein*

Types of potential interventions:

- Pilot projects addressing wind renewable energy

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 10 million



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Priority 2:

Promoting clean and fair energy transition, sustainable wastewater management and green investment (cont.)

SO(iii) *Developing smart energy systems, grids and storage at outside TEN-E*

Types of potential interventions:

- Development of a Second Electricity Interconnector – Project of strategic importance
- Investment in energy storage and campaigns

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 200.3 million



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Priority 2:

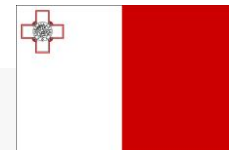
Promoting clean and fair energy transition, sustainable wastewater management and green investment (cont.)

SO (v) *Promoting access to water and sustainable water management*

Types of potential interventions:

- Investment in the wastewater collection network and wastewater treatment plants

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 55 million



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Priority 2:

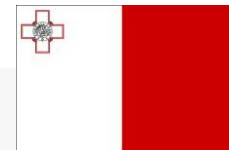
Promoting clean and fair energy transition, sustainable wastewater management and green investment (cont.)

SO(vii) *Enhancing protection and preservation of nature, **biodiversity** and **green infrastructure**, including in urban areas, and reducing all forms of pollution*

Types of potential interventions:

- Investments in green ecological corridors and Natura 2000 sites
- Restoration of biodiversity through green infrastructures and gardens

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 24 million



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Priority 3:

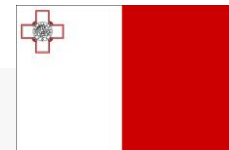
A more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights

SO(ii) *Improving equal access to inclusive and quality services in education, training and lifelong learning through developing accessible infrastructure, including by fostering resilience for distance and on-line education and training*

Types of potential interventions:

- Investment in mainstream education facilities
- Investing in VET education facilities

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 30 million



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Priority 3:

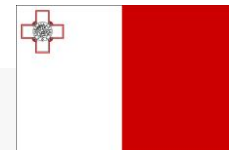
A more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights (cont.)

SO(v) *Ensuring equal access to **health care** and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care, and promoting the transition from institutional to family- and community-based care*

Types of potential interventions:

- Developing an acute mental health hospital
- Investing in a facility for the integration of paediatric rehabilitation services
- Investment in the resilience of the public healthcare system
- Investing in preventive health measures
- Investing in youth rehabilitation
- Investing in specialised recreational facilities for persons with a disability or illness and their families

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 124.5 million



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Priority 3:

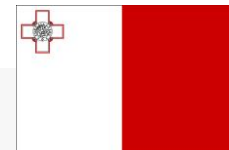
A more social and inclusive Europe implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights
(cont.)

SO(vi) *Enhancing the role of **culture and sustainable tourism** in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation*

Types of potential interventions:

- Enhancing and valorising Malta's tourism product

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 29.7 million



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Priority 4:

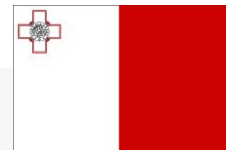
A Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all type of territories and local initiatives

SO(i) *Fostering the integrated and inclusive social, economic and environmental development, culture, natural heritage, sustainable tourism, and security in urban areas*

Types of potential interventions:

- Improve the environment and a shift towards a climate neutral economy
- Protect and promote Gozo's characteristics and foster Gozo's socio-economic fabric

Funding (EU+MT share) for this Priority/SO amounts to € 58 million



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Priority 5:

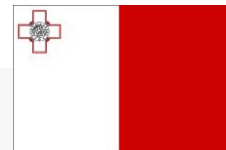
Promoting sustainable water management and a circular and resource efficient economy

SO(v) *Promoting access to **water** and sustainable water management*

Types of potential interventions:

- Modernise potable water supply networks and plants, improve leakage control and promote water savings actions

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 62 million



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Priority 5:

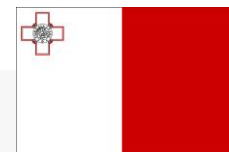
Promoting sustainable water management and a circular and resource efficient economy
(cont.)

SO(vi) *Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy*

Types of potential interventions:

- Improving treatment of separately collected organic waste through investment in an Organic Processing Plant

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 45 million



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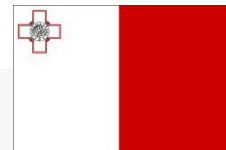
Priority 6: Sustainable urban mobility

SO(viii) *Promoting sustainable **multimodal urban mobility**, as part of transition to a net zero carbon economy*

Types of potential interventions:

- Investing in sustainable multimodal urban mobility
- Shift towards the use of alternative fuels in road transport

Funding (EU+MT share) for this Priority/SO amounts to € 42.2 million



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Priority 7:

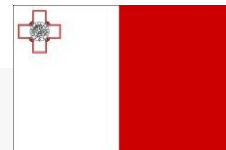
A more connected Europe by enhancing mobility

SO(i) *Developing a sustainable, climate resilient, intelligent, secure, sustainable and intermodal TEN-T*

Types of potential interventions:

- Investment in the TEN-T (core & comprehensive) road network
- Investment in the TEN-T ports

Funding (EU+MT share) for this Priority/SO amounts to € 45 million



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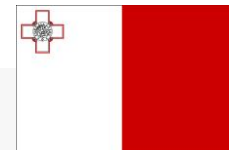
Priority 8: Just Transition

SO(i) *Enabling regions and people to address the social, employment, economic and environmental impacts of the transition towards the Union's 2030 targets for energy and climate and a climate-neutral economy of the Union by 2050, based on the Paris Agreement*

Types of potential interventions:

- Provision of onshore power supply: Grand Harbour (Southern Side) and Freeport – projects of strategic importance

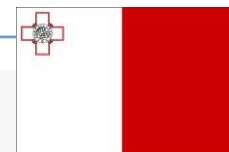
Funding (EU+MT share) for this Priority/SO/Plan amounts to € 33.2 million



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Overview of the Just Transition Plan

- The Just Transition Fund (JTF) – one of 3 pillars under the Just Transition Mechanism
- The JTF Plan covers areas at NUTS 3 level (regional level)
- The allocation (EU Share) of JTF resources is composed of: €12mn (EU Recovery Instrument) and €9mn (MFF Resources).
- Foreseen investments will aim to reduce emissions and improve air quality in Malta's two main ports engaged in international trade enabling Malta to cater for more environmentally sustainable maritime transport.
- Complementarity with ESF+ will be sought for investment in skills through training and educational provision related to green and blue skills.



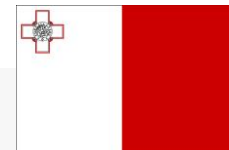
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Priority 9: Technical Assistance

Types of potential actions:

- Actions pertaining to preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and communication, networking, complaint resolution, as well as control and audit
- Actions for the reduction of the administrative burden on beneficiaries, including electronic data exchange systems
- Actions to reinforce the capacity of MS Authorities and beneficiaries to administer and use the fund
- Actions to support the strengthening of the institutional capacity of partners
- Reports and studies related to the sectors supported through this Programme
- Actions to support in the preparation of the Programme post-2027

Funding (EU+MT share) for this Priority amounts to € 41 million



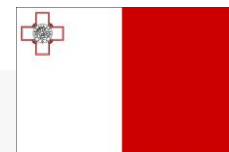
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ESF+ Programme

- 1 Policy Objective of the CPR reflected through 6 Priorities in the Programme.
- Total budget: Eur 204.8m (EU+MT)
- Adopted by the European Commission on 28 October 2022

Objective: Strengthening capacities in all sectors falling within the scope of the ESF+ Regulation – employment, education, health and social sectors – with the objective of improving and adapting to new and emerging needs.

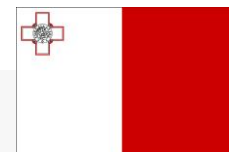
Fostering the socioeconomic wellbeing of society through the creation of opportunities for all and investment in human resources and skills



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What's new?

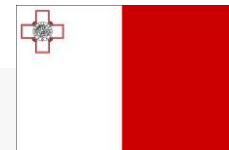
- i. The Priority aimed towards addressing material deprivation (FEAD) as part of the ESF+ Programme
- ii. A Priority dedicated specifically for Social Innovation
- iii. Different co-financing rates:
 - Priorities 1-3, 5, 6: 60% (EU Share) – 40% (MT share)
 - Priority 4: 90% (EU Share) – 10% (MT share)
- iv. Projects of Strategic Importance
- v. The Do No Significant Harm Principle – initiatives foreseen assessed at programme level
- vi. Different regulatory parameters, EU ambitions, national socio-economic realities



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Regulatory Parameters for the 2021-2027 Programming Period

Policy Area Concerned	Regulatory Obligation	% in MT Programme
Social Inclusion Policy	Min. 25%	26.1%
Support to the Most Deprived Persons	Min. 3%	3.6%
Earmarked support for:		
Youth employment		4.8%
Child poverty		4.4%
Capacity building of social partners and NGOs		2.2%



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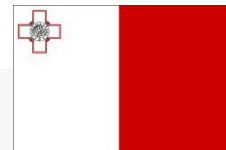
Priority 1: Enhancing employability and labour market resilience

SO(1) Improving access to employment and activation measures of all jobseekers, in particular youth people, especially through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee, long-term unemployed and disadvantaged groups on the labour market, and of inactive people, as well as through the promotion of self-employment and the social economy

Types of potential interventions:

- Youth Guarantee
- Training for employment initiative
- Access to employment scheme
- Work programme initiative
- Fostering a culture of social entrepreneurship

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 35.5 million



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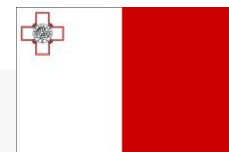
Priority 1 (cont.):

SO(3) *Promoting a **gender-balanced labour market** participation, equal working conditions, and a better work-life balance including through access to affordable childcare, and care for dependent persons*

Types of potential interventions:

- Facilitating female participation in the labour market and promoting gender balance

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to **€ 5 million**



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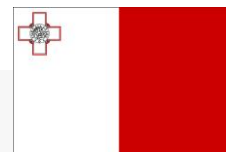
Priority 2: Fostering active inclusion for all

SO(8) *Fostering **active inclusion** with a view to promoting equal opportunities, non-discrimination and active participation, and improving employability, in particular for disadvantaged groups*

Types of potential interventions:

- Support services and life skills for social housing beneficiaries
- Active ageing projects
- Functional family therapy
- After-care services
- Investing in youth rehabilitation
- Continuation of the VASTE Programme
- Supporting the active role of voluntary organisations

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to **€ 23 million**



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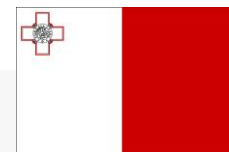
Priority 2 (cont.):

SO(9) *Promoting socio-economic **integration** of third country nationals, including migrants*

Types of potential interventions:

- Facilitating the socioeconomic integration of third-country nationals

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to **€ 1.5 million**.



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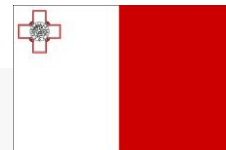
Priority 2 (cont.):

SO(11) *Enhancing the equal and timely access to quality, sustainable and affordable services, including services that promote the access to housing and person-centred care including healthcare; modernising social protection systems, including promoting access to social protection, with a particular focus on children and disadvantaged groups; improving accessibility including for persons with disabilities, effectiveness and resilience of healthcare systems and long-term care services*

Types of potential interventions:

- Training for health professionals, including in long-term care and disability
- Specialised training in child protection services
- Child Guarantee initiatives
- Addressing children's developmental/medical needs holistically
- Support for social partners and other NGOs

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to **€ 29.6 million**.



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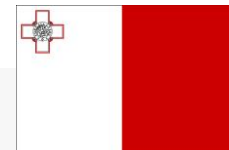
Priority 3: Quality and inclusive education and enhanced lifelong learning for growth

SO(6) Promoting equal access to and completion of quality and inclusive education and training, in particular for disadvantaged groups, from early childhood education and care through general and vocational education and training, to tertiary level, as well as adult education and learning, including facilitating learning mobility for all and accessibility for persons with disabilities

Types of potential interventions:

- Promoting quality education and reducing early school leaving – project of strategic importance
- Developing inclusive education pathways
- Enhancing further and higher education
- Addressing skills gaps through the development and running of new courses
- Improving the quality and effectiveness of education and training systems

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 68.8 million.



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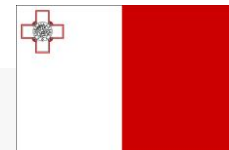
Priority 3 (cont.):

SO(7) *Promoting **lifelong learning**, in particular flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all taking into account entrepreneurial and digital skills, better anticipating change and new skills requirements based on labour market needs, facilitating career transitions and promoting professional mobility*

Types of potential interventions:

- Training programmes to support lifelong learning in the public sector
- Promoting the adaptation of enterprises and entrepreneurs through training aid
- Investing in postdoctoral research and fellowships

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to **€20 million**.



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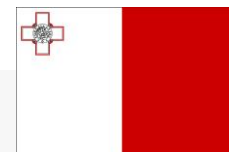
Priority 4: Addressing material deprivation (FEAD)

SO(13) Addressing material deprivation through food and/or basic material assistance to the most deprived persons, including children, and providing accompanying measures supporting their social inclusion

Types of potential interventions:

- Provision of food
- Accompanying measures, including the setting-up of a specific desks at collection points, providing beneficiaries with targeted information concerning services they can benefit from under both national and EU Funds

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 5 million.



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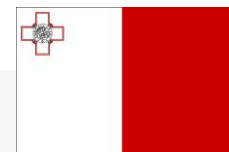
Priority 5: Enhancing social innovation

SO(8) *Fostering active inclusion with a view to promoting equal opportunities, non-discrimination and active participation, and improving employability, in particular for disadvantaged groups*

Types of potential interventions:

- Actions for social innovation directed towards new/improved ways to enhance well-being, including the identification of innovative solutions that aim to support patients with rare diseases, as well as the need to foster the independence of older people and people with disabilities, enabling them to live a more active life within their community

Funding (EU+MT share) for this SO amounts to € 4 million.



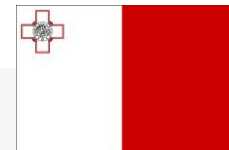
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Priority 6: Technical Assistance

Types of potential actions:

- Actions pertaining to preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, complaint resolution, as well as control and audit
- Actions pertaining to information, communication and networking, including media advertising, audio-visual products, informative publications and collateral materials, social media as well as a specific portal promoting EU Funds
- Actions for the reduction of the administrative burden on beneficiaries, including electronic data exchange systems
- Actions to reinforce the capacity of MS Authorities and beneficiaries to administer and use the fund
- Actions to support the strengthening of the institutional capacity of partners
- Actions to support in the preparation of the Programme post-2027

Funding (EU+MT share) for this Priority amounts to € 12.4 million.

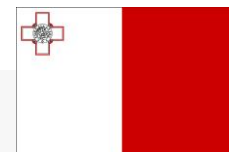


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Enabling Conditions - Fulfilled

- All horizontal enabling conditions are deemed fulfilled

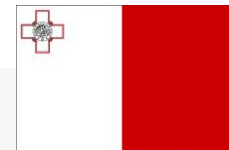
Horizontal Enabling Condition	Status of Fulfilment
G.1 – Effective monitoring mechanisms of the public procurement market	Fulfilled
G.2 – Tools and capacity for effective application of State aid rules	
G.3 – Effective application and implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights	
G.4 – Implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the rights of person with disabilities (UNCRPD) in accordance with Council Decision 2010/48/EC	



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Enabling Conditions – Fulfilled

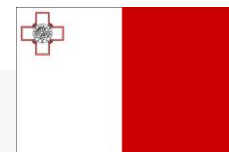
Thematic Enabling Condition	Fund	Status of Fulfilment
T1.1 – Good governance of national or regional smart specialisation strategy	ERDF	Fulfilled
T2.1 – Strategic policy framework to support energy efficiency renovation of residential and non-residential buildings	ERDF	
T2.3 – Effective promotion of the use of renewable energy across sectors and across the EU	ERDF	
T2.6 – Updated planning for waste management	CF	
T2.7 – Prioritised action framework for the necessary conservation measures involving Union co-financing	ERDF	
T4.1 – Strategic policy framework for active labour market policies	ESF +	
T4.3 – Strategic policy framework for the education and training system at all levels	ERDF/ ESF+	
T4.4 – National strategic policy framework for social inclusion and poverty reduction	ESF +	



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Enabling Conditions – Not Fulfilled

Thematic Enabling Condition	Fund	Status of Fulfilment
T2.2 – Governance of the Energy Sector	ERDF	Not Fulfilled
T2.5 – Updated planning for required investments in water and wastewater sectors	ERDF & CF	Not Fulfilled
T3.1 – Comprehensive transport planning at the appropriate level	CF	Not Fulfilled
T4.2 – National strategic framework for gender equality	ESF+	Not Fulfilled (pending assessment)
T4.6 – Strategic policy framework for health and long-term care	ERDF/ ESF+	Not Fulfilled



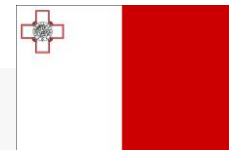
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Simplified Cost Options (SCOs)

Building on the simplification measures adopted during the 2014-2020 programming period, which have aimed to reduce administrative burden and facilitate implementation, the use of simplified cost options is foreseen in the programme.

At programme submission, an SCO for **consultancy** services under the ERDF.CF/JTF Programme and SCOs for **travel, per diem costs** and **scholarships** under the ESF+ Programme had been established for the 21-27 period.

Additional SCOs may be developed in the course of Programme implementation, as necessary.



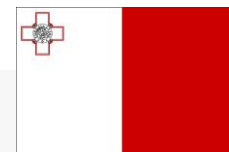
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Simplification:

Partnership

In the run up to the development of the Programmes, various stakeholders were involved in the development of the Programmes, including through the 2014-2020 MC, consultative committee/bilateral meetings and a public consultation exercise held between 2020- 2021.

In addition, the **ESF+** Programme will support the key stakeholders, such as to enable them to contribute towards the formulation of national social, education and employment policies. Support will be provided for training, studies, networking measures and activities jointly undertaken by the social partners, amongst others, through a total allocation of **€ 4 million**.



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Next Steps



Official launch of the ERDF/CF/JTF Programme and ESF+ Programme – Quarter 1 2023



Launch of calls – Quarter 1 of 2023



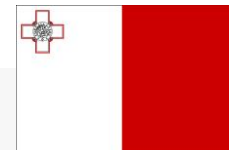
Continued monitoring of the Enabling Conditions



Continued monitoring of the programme implementation and the outcome of relevant evaluations



Continued engagement with the Monitoring Committee



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Thank you



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