



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER  
MINISTRY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT  
FOR THE EU PRESIDENCY 2017 AND EU FUNDS

## 10th EAFRD Monitoring Committee Meeting

Funds and Programmes Division

27th May 2014



## Highlights of 2013 Annual Progress Report

EAFRD Managing Authority  
Funds and Programmes Division





## State of Play of Measure Implementation



### Highlight of Programme Implementation 2013



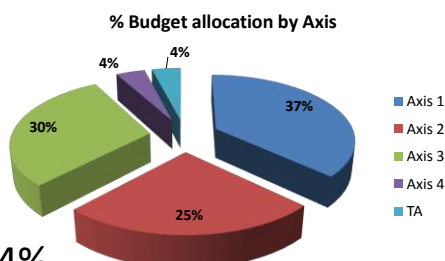
- **Publishing of results** following calls for applications;
- **Contracting of new beneficiaries**, following publishing of results;
- **Implementation of projects** following contracts signed prior to 2013;
- **Budget transfers** between Axis to ensure uptake of funds;
- **Launching of several calls** for applications, especially under Axis 4



## The Rural Development Programme 2007 – 2013



- Axis 1 – 37%
- Axis 2 – 25%
- Axis 3 – 30%
- Axis 4 – 4%
- Technical Assistance – 4%



## Measure 111

Vocational Training and Information Actions



- 4th Call – Applications received between 28 June and 26 July 2013, both applicants were considered eligible.
  - Agriculture Directorate initiated training courses related to fruit and vegetables in January 2014.
- 5th Call – Applications were received between 16 December 2013 and 13 January 2014.
  - Two applications received.

Total: **5 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€296,820**



## Measure 114

Use of Advisory Services



- Launched for the second time in July 2011, applications are ongoing.
- Significant progress in 2013:
  - 103 applications were registered by the FASC
  - 45 farmers have been contracted

Total: **45 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€29,400**

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## Measure 115

Setting up of Advisory Service



- First call issued in 2009, none of the applications were deemed eligible.
- Second call issued in 2011, one application was received and eventually contracted.
- FAS offers services related to Cross Compliance, design of crop plans and fertilizer plans.

Total: **1 beneficiary** contracted with a total contracted value of **€99,900**

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## Measure 121

Modernisation of Agricultural Holdings

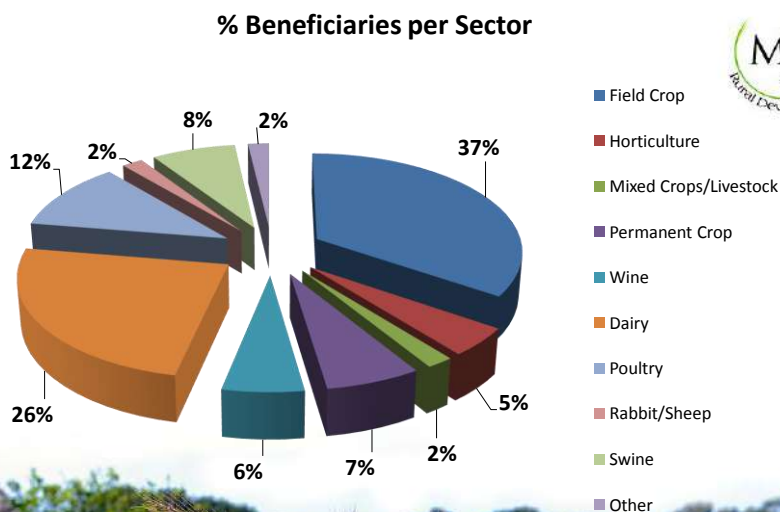


- First call: November 2009
  - 360 applications were received
  - 275 beneficiaries were contracted
- Second call: October 2011
  - 503 application were received
  - 54 beneficiaries were contracted

Total: **329 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€20,119,203**



% Beneficiaries per Sector





## Types of investments:

- Animal husbandry sector: reconstruction works, building of animal housing, feeders, and milking machines.
- Crop sector: investments in buildings, irrigation equipment, tractors, greenhouses and water reservoirs.



## Positive impacts of M121:



- Introduction of modern technologies
- Reduction in the use of pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers
- Decrease in the amount of manure/sludge seeping into the ground
- Improvement in the conditions in which animals are kept, better animal welfare
- Reduction in water use
- Lower fuel and electricity consumption
- Higher outputs
- Increase in efficiency





**Storage facilities and calf boxes, M121 project**



**Construction of a greenhouse, M121 project**

## Measure 123

Adding Value to Agricultural Products



- First call: February 2009
  - 29 applications received
  - 24 beneficiaries contracted
  
- Second call: October 2011
  - 38 applications received
  - 21 beneficiaries contracted
  
- Total: **45 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€5,627,222**



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## Types of investments:

- Processing equipment
- Packaging equipment
- Conveyor lines
- Weighing equipment
- Blast chillers
- Cold rooms
- Freezers
- Water chillers
- Boilers
- PV systems



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## Positive impacts of M123:

- Introduction of new, modern technologies
- Introduction of new products
- Application of innovative solutions
- Improvement in efficiency
- Reduction in water, electricity and fuel consumption
- Growth in local market share
- Better access to export market



## Measure 124

Cooperation for development of New Products, Processes and Technologies in the Agricultural and Food Sectors



- First call: September 2009
  - 3 applications received
  - 3 beneficiaries contracted
- Second call: October 2011
  - 5 applications received
  - 3 beneficiaries contracted
- Total: **6 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€450,387**

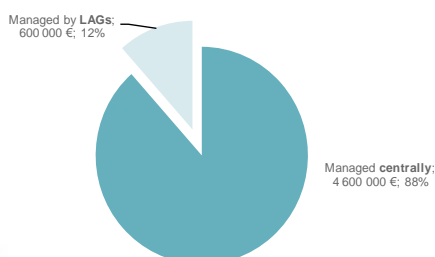


## Measure 125

Infrastructure related to the Development and Adaptation of Agriculture



- Two types of interventions targeting:
  - Water management, launched centrally by the MA
  - Increase accessibility to agricultural holdings, launched by the Local Action Groups



- **Water management:**
  - Applications received between June and July 2011
  - One application was received, beneficiary was later contracted
  - Contract value amounts to €4.6 million
- **Increase accessibility to agricultural holdings:**
  - Applications were received by the LAGs between February and June, and February and March 2013
  - 45 applications were received
  - 23 applicants will be contracted in the course of 2014
  - In total, €600,000 will be contracted between the three LAGs





- **Positive impacts of M125:**
  - Better water management by the agricultural sector
  - Distribution of recycled water which can be used by farmers
  - Improved access to agricultural holdings, reducing the risk of land abandonment



## Measure 132

Participation of Farmers in Food Quality Schemes



- **First call: September 2009**
  - 4 applications received
  - 4 beneficiaries contracted
- **Second call: October 2011**
  - No applications received

**Total: 4 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€11,595**

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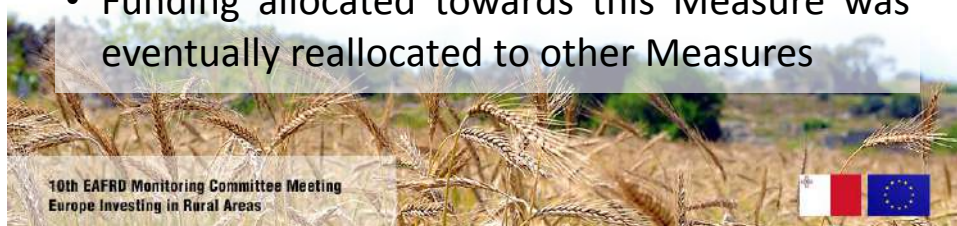


## Measure 133

Information and Promotion Activities on Food Quality Schemes



- First call: September 2009
  - No applications received
- Second call: October 2011
  - No applications received
- Funding allocated towards this Measure was eventually reallocated to other Measures



## Measure 142

Setting up of Producer Groups



- First call: September 2009
  - 11 applications received
  - 1 beneficiary contracted
- Second call: October 2011
  - 4 applications received
  - 1 beneficiary contracted
- Total: **2 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€511,750**



## Measure 212

Natural handicap payments in other areas with handicaps



- Payment Claims were received between February and May 2013
  - 5,854 payment claims were received following this campaign
  - 5,990 beneficiaries were paid in 2013
  - Total area committed adds up to 8,373.9ha
  - Total amount committed adds up to **€16,128,628**



## Measure 214

Agri-environment Payments



- Payment Claims were received between February and May 2013
  - 1,983 payment claims were received following this campaign
  - 2,261 beneficiaries were paid in 2013
  - Total area committed adds up to 2,025.6ha
  - Total amount committed adds up to **€9,278,848**



## Measure 214 (10)

Support for the Conservation of Genetic Resources in Agriculture



- Applications were received between October and December 2011
  - 5 applications received
  - 1 beneficiary contracted
  - Contract value amounts to **€2,228,025**



### Interventions include:

- Engagement of technical experts
- Training on conservation methods, sanitation, seed sampling and seed quality testing
- Purchase of information panels, design and printing of leaflets and other materials for promotional and educational purposes
- Purchasing of a water purification system and health and safety equipment
- The upgrade of a computerised plant growth room and computerised thermotherapy room
- Construction of a water reservoir
- Setting up of a laboratory, visitor's centre



## Measure 313

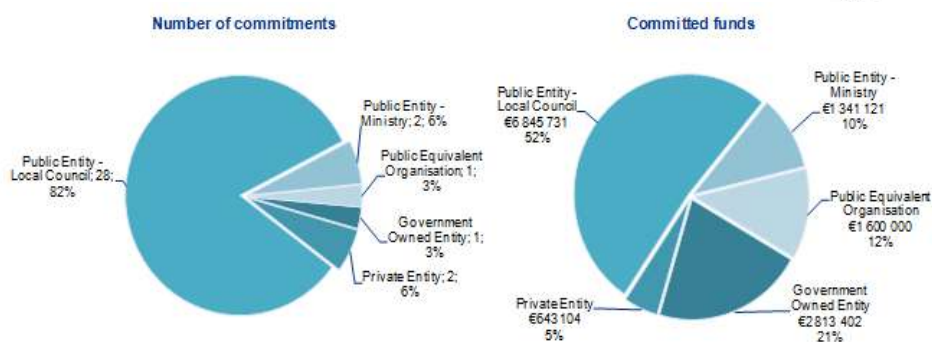
### Encouragement of Tourism Activities



- First call, launched by the MA: February 2009
  - 45 applications received
  - 20 beneficiaries contracted
- Second call, launched by the LAGs: March 2011
  - 24 applications received
  - 14 beneficiaries contracted
- Third call, launched by the LAGs: August 2013
  - 18 applications received
  - 10 beneficiaries will be contracted in the course of 2014
- Total: **34 beneficiaries** contracted with a total contracted value of **€13,243,358**



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## Positive impacts of M313:

- Generating touristic potential
- Improving the rural landscape
- Enhancing the touristic values of localities
- Generating revenue for local businesses through increased number of tourists
- Improving the quality of life of residents



Ġnien tal-Ponta, Ġhargħur







Works at Pjazza Żernieg, Kirkop

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**Dingli, Fawwara, Wied iż-Żurriq**  
*walks*

**Promenade de Ġirgenti**  
*promenade*

**Caminu ta' la route**

Includes logos for Malta, EAFRD, and the European Union.

**Dingli, Fawwara, Wied iż-Żurriq**  
*walks*

**Ta' Sitt (Marsaxlokk - Marsaxlokk)**  
*wanderung*

**Kurzbeschreibung:** Diese Wanderung ist ziemlich einfach. Sie führt an der Küste entlang, vorbei durch die Dörfer Marsaxlokk und Marsaxlokk, die St. Theresa Bay und an die unberührten Klippen von Maassar und Delfinara. Der restliche Wanderweg ist für alle gleich. Jeder Gegenstand der St. Theresa Bay können Sie jedoch entweder Route A oder Route B folgen. Beide Routen enden in Marsaxlokk.

**Compte rendu:** Cette randonnée est assez facile. Elle se fait le long de la côte, passant par les villages de Marsaxlokk et Marsaxlokk, la baie de Sainte-Thérèse et les falaises sauvages de Maassar et Delfinara. Le reste du chemin est pour tous les mêmes. Chaque objet de la baie de Sainte-Thérèse vous pouvez soit suivre l'itinéraire A ou l'itinéraire B. Les deux itinéraires se terminent à Marsaxlokk.

MTA Rural Walks

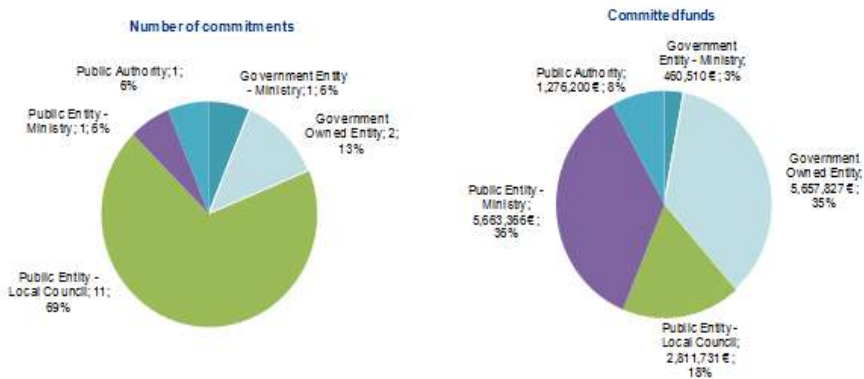
## Measure 323

Conservation and Upgrading of the Rural Heritage



- Applications were received between February and May 2009
  - 38 applications received
  - **16 beneficiaries** contracted

- Total contracted value adds up to **€15,718,866**



Distribution of funds by type of entity



## Positive impacts of M323:



- Increasing attractiveness of rural areas
- Improvement of rural landscape and embellishment of local villages
- Improved access to natural and cultural heritage sites
- Improvement of facilities available at natural and cultural heritage sites
- Positive effects contributing to environmental sustainability and higher environmental awareness
- Improvement of the quality of life in rural areas



Mellieħa M313/M323 integrated project



Restoration of bridge in Speranza area, Mosta

## Measure 341

Skills acquisition, animation and implementation



- Applications were received between February and May 2009
  - 4 applications received
  - **3 beneficiaries** contracted
  - Total contracted value adds up to **€308,438**
  - This was a one time call, Measure is now closed



## Process and positive impacts:



- Three Local Development Strategies were designed
- LDS was developed following a public consultation process which entailed:
  - meetings organised in all localities forming part of each respective LAG;
  - meetings with representatives from economic, social and environmental stakeholders operating within the region; and
  - online consultation.



## Measure 410

Implementation of Local Development Strategies



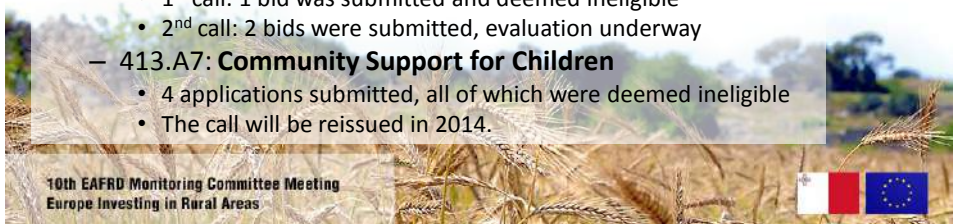
- Launch of Actions started in 2012 and continued throughout 2013
- As at end 2013 , GAL Xlokk had contracted **21 beneficiaries**, with a public expenditure of **€498,647**
- Majjistral Action Group Foundation contracted **€294,473**, with a public expenditure of **15 beneficiaries**.



## GAL Xlokk Foundation



- Action 411.2: **Capital Investment to Support Artisanal Agricultural Activity**
  - 3 applications submitted, 1 contract was signed in 2013, for a total public expenditure of €50,000.
- 413.A3: **Open Call for Voluntary Organisations (2<sup>nd</sup> call)**
  - 15 applications submitted, 14 contracts will be signed in 2014, for a total public expenditure of c. €188,000.
- 413.A5: **Embellishment Projects**
  - 11 applications submitted, 8 contracts will be signed in 2014, for a total public expenditure of c. €109,200.
- 413.A6: **Cultural and Educational Activities (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> call)**
  - 1<sup>st</sup> call: 1 bid was submitted and deemed ineligible
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> call: 2 bids were submitted, evaluation underway
- 413.A7: **Community Support for Children**
  - 4 applications submitted, all of which were deemed ineligible
  - The call will be reissued in 2014.



## Majjstral Action Group Foundation



- 413.2: **Support for Direct Marketing – Crafts Sector**
  - 9 applications submitted, 7 contracts will be signed in 2014, for a total public expenditure of c. €25,700.
- 413.4: **Development of 3 Distinctive products for the Majjstral Region**
  - 4 applications submitted, 3 contracts will be signed in 2014, for a total public expenditure of c. €99,800.
- 413.7: **Formation of Foundation of Territorial Rangers**
  - 1 application submitted, the application was eventually rejected



## Gozo Action Group Foundation



- 413.2: **Folk and Traditional Activities Support**, (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> call)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> call: No applications were submitted
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> call: 1 application submitted, evaluation underway
- 413.3: **Craft Sector Support**
  - 4 applications were received, all were deemed ineligible
- 413.6: **Events and Festivals**
  - 3 applications were submitted, 2 were withdrawn while, 1 was ineligible
  - The call will be reissued in 2014



## Measure 421

Inter-territorial and Transnational Cooperation



- Applications were received between June and October 2012
  - Each Local Action Group submitted 1 application
  - The 3 applications were evaluated and deemed eligible
  - Most activities will take place in 2014, in parallel with progress by the lead LAG and other LAGs forming part of these cooperation projects.



## Measure 431

Running costs, acquisition of skills and animation



- Funding ensures that LAGs can proceed with their operations
- Support covers the running costs for the management of each respective LAG including:
  - Salaries of the LAG administrative staff ;
  - Rent fees of office premises;
  - Purchase of office furniture;
  - Services of professionals such as lawyers and accountants;
  - Other services such as utilities, internet and telephone services.



## Technical Assistance



- Enhances the capacities of the MA to fulfil its duties to manage the RDP.
- Support was mainly allocated towards:
  - Preparation and programming
  - Management and support
  - Monitoring
  - Evaluation
  - Information
  - Control functions







## Publicity



## Main Activities

- **Payment Claims Campaign 2013** – Annual Launch of Axis 2 Measures, February 2013
- **Locality meetings** related to Annual Launch of Axis 2 Measures, April 2013



- **TV features**

- *Malta u lili hinn Minnha*, January to June 2013
- *Mad-Daqqa t'Għajn*, April to September 2013



- Participation in **fairs and events:**

- *Festa tal-Ħalib* held on 28 April in Għargħur;
- *Wirja Agrarja* held on 4 May in Dingli;
- *Festa tal-Ħut* held on 2 June in Zurrieq;
- Imnarja Festivities held on 28 and 29 June in Buskett;
- *Casal Fornaro* held on the 21 September in Qormi.



## National Rural Network





# Main Activities

- NRN Consultation Process
  - 6 different working groups, 5 meetings each
  - 1 joint working group meeting
  - Public Consultation meeting



- NRN Newsletter
  - 6th edition: LEADER update
  - 7th edition: the NRN consultation process



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## Thank You

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