



11th EAFRD Monitoring Committee Meeting

Funds and Programmes Division

17th April 2015



Highlights of 2014 Annual Progress Report

EAFRD Managing Authority
Funds and Programmes Division



State of Play of Measure Implementation



Highlights of Programme Implementation

- **Contracting of new beneficiaries** under various measures;
- **Tighter monitoring of projects** contracted in and prior to 2014;
- **Budget transfers** between Axis to ensure uptake of funds;
- **Supporting LAGs** in the launching of several calls for applications and contracting of beneficiaries under Axis 4;
- Targets for disbursement of the total amount committed for 2012 **were executed and exceeded** by end of quarter 4 of 2014.



Main Changes in 2014

Consolidation Process

- Process was completed on **Monday 14 April 2014**;
- The **EAFRD Managing Authority** migrated from the Office of the Permanent Secretary (MSDEC) to FPD (MEAIM);
- Responsibilities of the **Competent Authority** for EAGF and EAFRD, which resided within FPD (MEAIM), were transferred to the Policy Development and Programme Implementation Directorate within MEAIM;
- The **Agricultural and Rural Payments Agency** continued to reside within MSDEC;
- The **Certifying Body** continued to reside within the Internal Audit and Investigations Department (OPM).



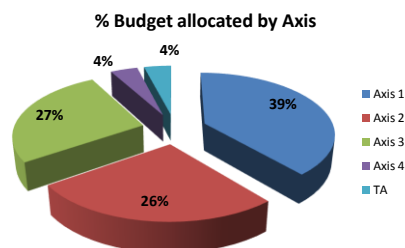
6th Programme Modification

- **Approved by the MC** in August 2014, following written procedure;
- **Submitted** in September 2014, revised in December 2014;
- **Approved by the EU Commission** in January 2015;
- **Minor** text amendments;
- **Budget shifts** to satisfy demands for funding and minimise risk of unutilised funds.



The Rural Development Programme 2007 – 2013

- Axis 1 – 39%
- Axis 2 – 26%
- Axis 3 – 27%
- Axis 4 – 4%
- Technical Assistance – 4%



Measure 111

Vocational Training and Information Actions

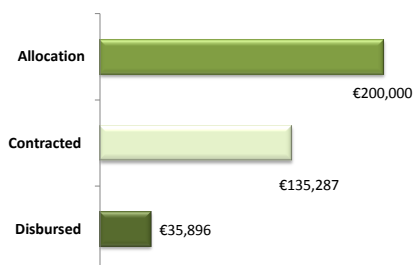


- **4 contracts** signed, **3** of which **concluded**;
- **5th** beneficiary contracted in 2015;
- Measure is **overcommitted** however **savings** were registered from concluded commitments.



Measure 114

Use of Advisory Services



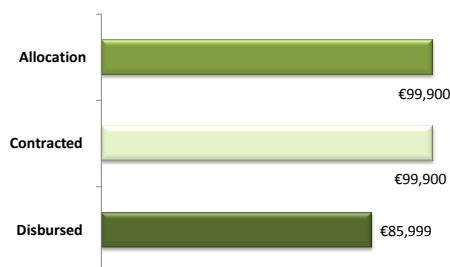
- Launched for the second time in July 2011, **applications ongoing**;
- Significant progress in 2014:

–266 farmers **registered**
–161 farmers **contracted**



Measure 115

Setting up of Advisory Service



- Second call issued in 2011, **one application** was received and **contracted**;
- FAS offers services related to **cross compliance, animal welfare, design of fertilizer plans and health and safety.**



Measure 121

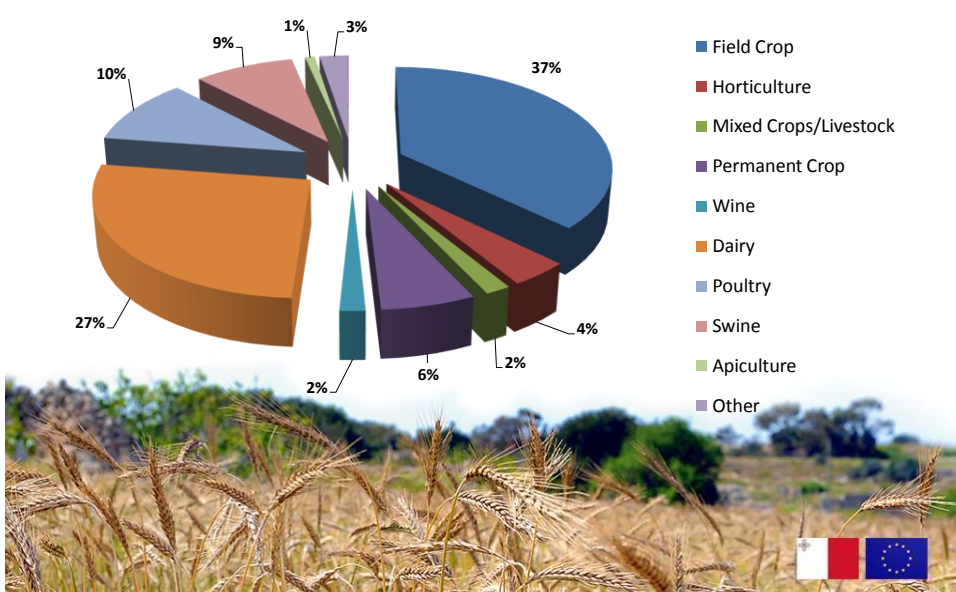
Modernisation of Agricultural Holdings



- First call: November 2009
 - 360 applications received
 - 274 beneficiaries contracted
- Second call: October 2011
 - 503 application received
 - 80 beneficiaries contracted
- Total: **354 beneficiaries**
- Additional beneficiaries will be contracted in 2015;
- Measure is **overcommitted**, however, **savings** from finalised projects will be registered.



% Beneficiaries per Sector



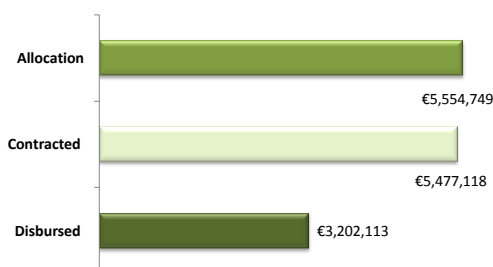
Positive impacts of M121

- Introduction of **modern technologies**
- **Reduction** in use of **pesticides, herbicides** and **chemical fertilizers**
- **Decrease** in amount of **manure/sludge** seeping into the ground
- Better **animal welfare**
- Reduction in **water use**
- **Lower** fuel and electricity consumption
- Increase in **efficiency**



Measure 123

Adding Value to Agricultural Products



- First call: February 2009
 - 29 applications received
 - 24 beneficiaries contracted
- Second call: October 2011
 - 38 applications received
 - 20 beneficiaries contracted
- Total: **44 beneficiaries**



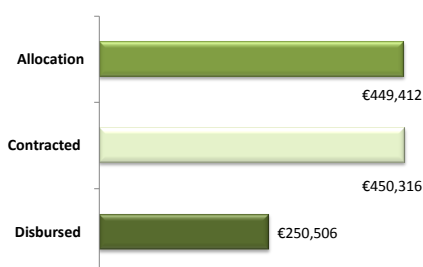
Positive impacts of M123

- Introduction of **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

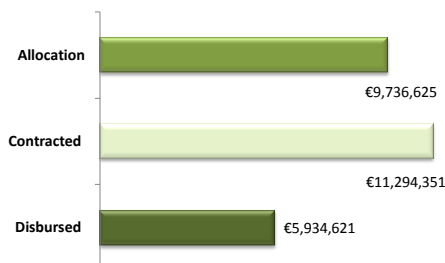


- First call: September 2009
 - 3 applications received
 - 3 beneficiaries contracted
- Second call: October 2011
 - 5 applications received
 - 3 beneficiaries contracted
- Beneficiaries from the **wine, milk, tomato and carob** sectors
- Total: **6 beneficiaries**



Measure 125

Infrastructure related to the Development and Adaptation of Agriculture



- Two types of interventions:
 - **Water management**, launched by the MA
 - **Increase accessibility to agricultural holdings**, launched centrally and by the LAGs



- **First Call – Water management:**
 - One application received in 2011, beneficiary was later contracted
 - Grant agreement value: **€4.6 million**
- **Second Call – Increase accessibility to agricultural holdings:**
 - 45 applications received by LAGs
 - **€562,000** among **22 beneficiaries** were contracted in 2014



- **Third Call – Increase accessibility to agricultural holdings:**
 - One application received in 2014, beneficiary was later contracted
 - Transport Malta, the beneficiary, will resurface 55 rural roads
 - Grant agreement value: **€5.9million**



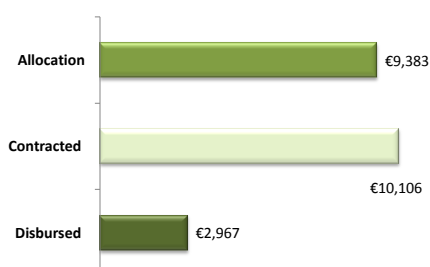
Positive impacts of M125

- **Better water management** by the agricultural sector
- Distribution of **recycled water** which can be used by farmers
- Facilitate **access to agricultural holdings**, reducing the risk of land abandonment
- **Improving efficiency** of the agricultural sector by enabling the use of machinery and means of transportation



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**



Measure 133

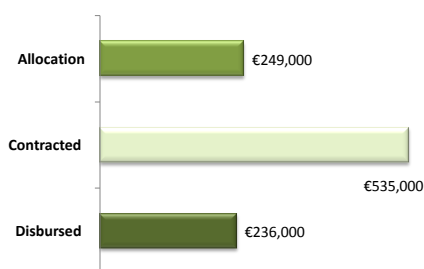
Information and Promotion Activities on Food Quality Schemes

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



Measure 142

Setting up of Producer Groups

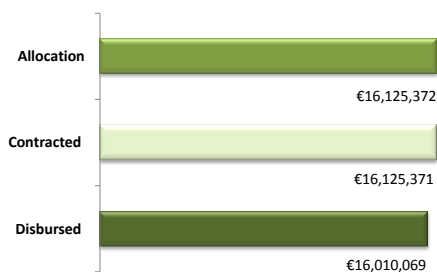


- First call: September 2009
 - 11 applications received
 - 1 beneficiary contracted
- Second call: October 2011
 - 4 applications received
 - 1 beneficiary contracted
- Total: **2 beneficiaries**



Measure 212

Natural handicap payments in other areas with handicaps



- Payment Claims were received between February and May 2014

- **5,823 beneficiaries** were paid in 2014

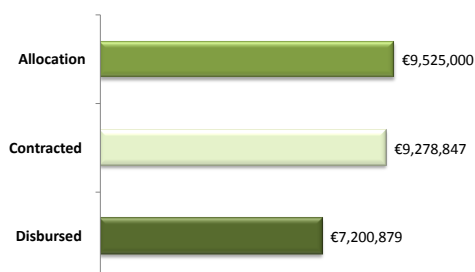
- Total area committed adds up to **8,484ha**

- Measure is **fully committed**, funds will be transferred to honour 2015 commitments



Measure 214

Agri-environment Payments



- Payment Claims were received between February and May 2014

- 1,907 beneficiaries were paid in 2014

- Total area committed adds up to 1,478ha



Measure 214 (10)

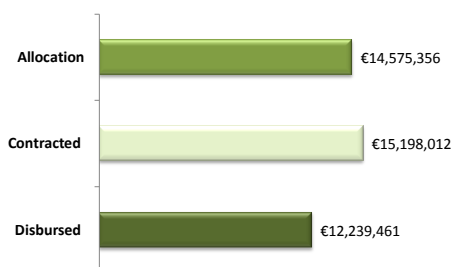
Support for the Conservation of Genetic Resources in Agriculture

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



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
 - 15 beneficiaries contracted

- Total: **49 beneficiaries**
- Measure is currently overcommitted, however savings are expected



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



Siggiewi M313 project





Ministry for Gozo M313 project



Measure 323

Conservation and Upgrading of the Rural Heritage



- Launched by the MA in 2009:
 - 38 applications received
 - **16 beneficiaries** contracted
- Measure is currently overcommitted, however savings are expected



Positive impacts of M323:

- Increasing **attractiveness** of rural areas
- Improvement of **rural landscape** and
- **Embellishment** of local villages
- **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

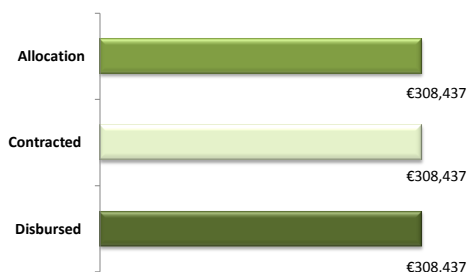


Munxar M313/M323



Measure 341

Skills acquisition, animation and implementation



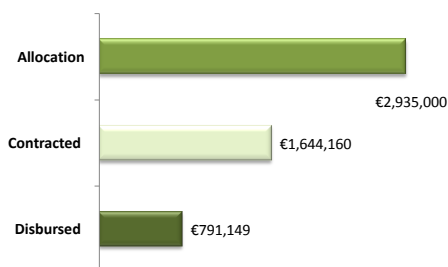
- Launched by the MA in 2009:

- 4 applications received
- **3 beneficiaries** contracted
- This was a one time call, Measure is fully disbursed and now closed



Measure 410

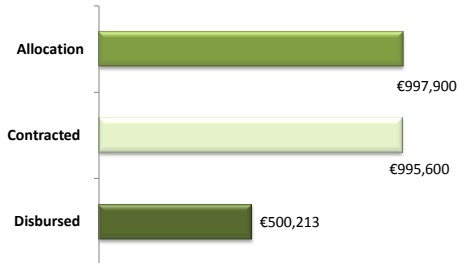
Implementation of Local Development Strategies



- Launch of Actions started in 2012 and **continued throughout 2013 and 2014**
- **8 Actions** launched in 2014: **1 by MAGF, 2 by GXF and 5 by GAGF**
- Total: **73 beneficiaries**



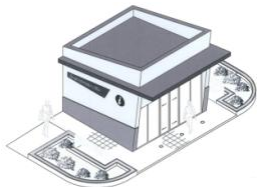
GAL Xlokk Foundation



- GXF contracted **43 beneficiaries**
- Actions launched:
 - Setting up of Tourist Hub
 - Community Support for Children



413.A1a: Communication and Branding of the Region



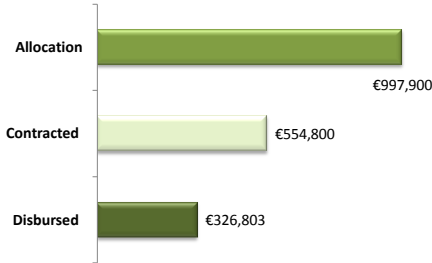
413.A1B: Setting up of a Tourist Hub



413.A8: Open Call for Sports Activities/Facilities



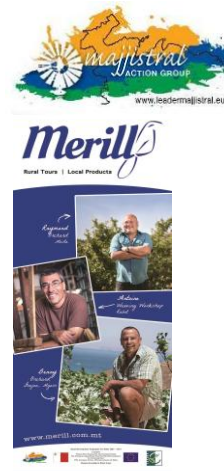
Majjstral Action Group Foundation



- MAGF contracted **28 beneficiaries**
- Actions launched:
 - Support Arts and Culture Organisations to Undertake Capital Projects



413.2 Support for Direct Marketing – Crafts Sector



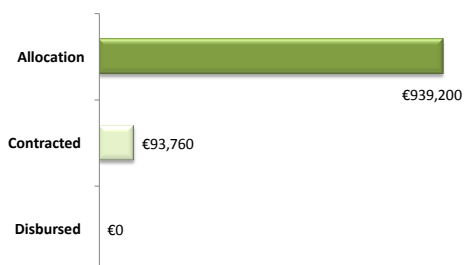
413.5: Creation of Rural Tourism Network



413.6: Support Arts and Culture Organizations to undertake Capital Projects



Gozo Action Group Foundation

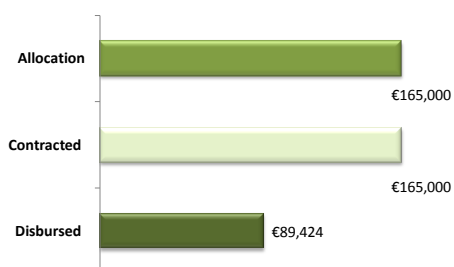


- GAGF contracted **2 beneficiaries**
- Actions launched:
 - Promotion of Gozo as Distinct Destination
 - Folk and Traditional Activities Support
 - Landscaping
 - Signposting
 - Events and Festivals



Measure 421

Inter-territorial and Transnational Cooperation



- Applications were received in 2012
 - Each Local Action Group submitted 1 application
 - Several activities took place in 2014, projects will be finalised in 2015



GXF and MAGF

- GXF and MAGF are participating in the same cooperation project, '**MeDIETerranea**', together with another 7 Italian LAGs
- To **promote** and **enhance** the Mediterranean diet as a source of healthy food, as an identity of the region and as part of the culture of the people involved
- LAGs participated festivals in Sardinia and Veneto
- The Maltese LAGs will organize a **final festival in Malta** in Spring/Summer 2015



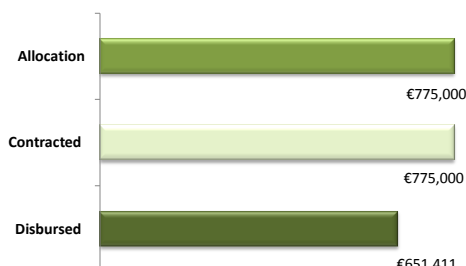
GAGF

- Project entitled 'Network of **Transnational Enogastronomic itineraries** for the promotion of the Mediterranean cultural-food model'
- GAGF is developing a **Wine and Food Route** in Gozo
- This will be linked to a **network of similar itineraries** developed by partner LAGs
- The entire route will be promoted as an **integrated tourist offer** at a transnational level.



Measure 431

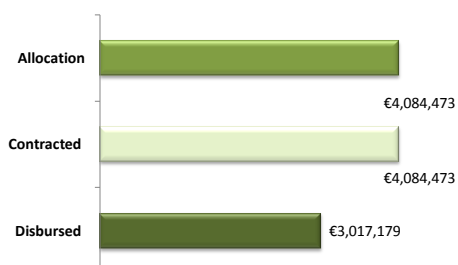
Running costs, acquisition of skills and animation



- Support covers running costs for the management of each respective LAG including:
 - Salaries of LAG administrative staff ;
 - Rent of office premises;
 - Services of professionals such as lawyers and accountants;
 - Other services such as utilities.



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



Promotional Activities



Promotional Material

- **Project Examples** – 10th edition of the NRN newsletter
 - **case studies** and **success stories** from the four axes of the RDP
- Another **3 editions** of the **NRN newsletter**
- Two **roll up banners**, one of which features a number of project examples



Main Events

- September 2014, **Sectoral Meeting**, focusing on 2014 – 2020 RDP
- September 2014, **Young Farmers**, focus group by DG Agri
- October 2014, **Notte Bianca**, MA stand at Auberge D'Aragon
- October 2014, **MEUSAC EXPLORE EU Funds**, presentation 2014 – 2020 RDP
- November 2014, **LEADER Operating Rules**, seminar



Thank You

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