

MONITORING COMMITTEE for Operational Programme II

*Empowering People for More Jobs and a Better
Quality of Life*

Cohesion policy (2007-2013)

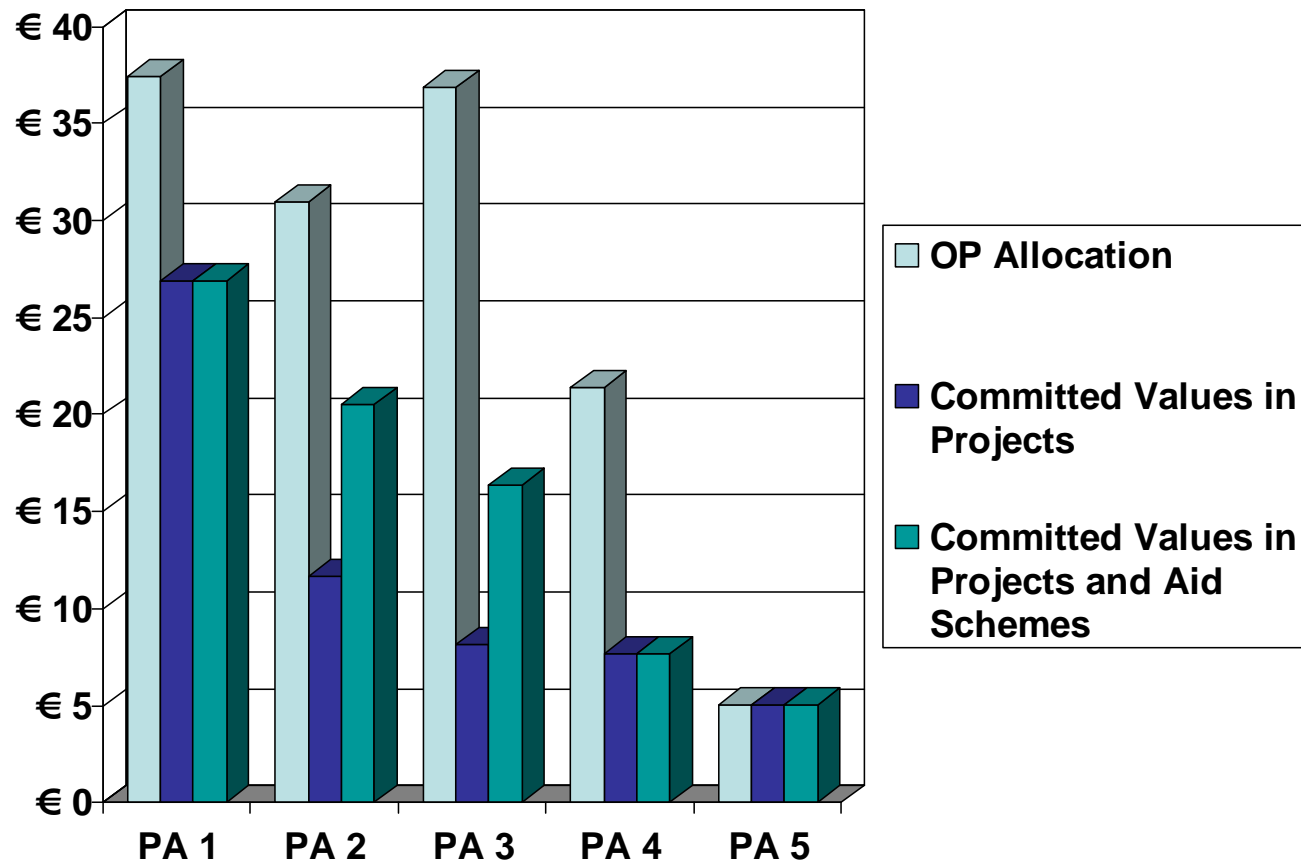
Implementation Update

13th May 2011

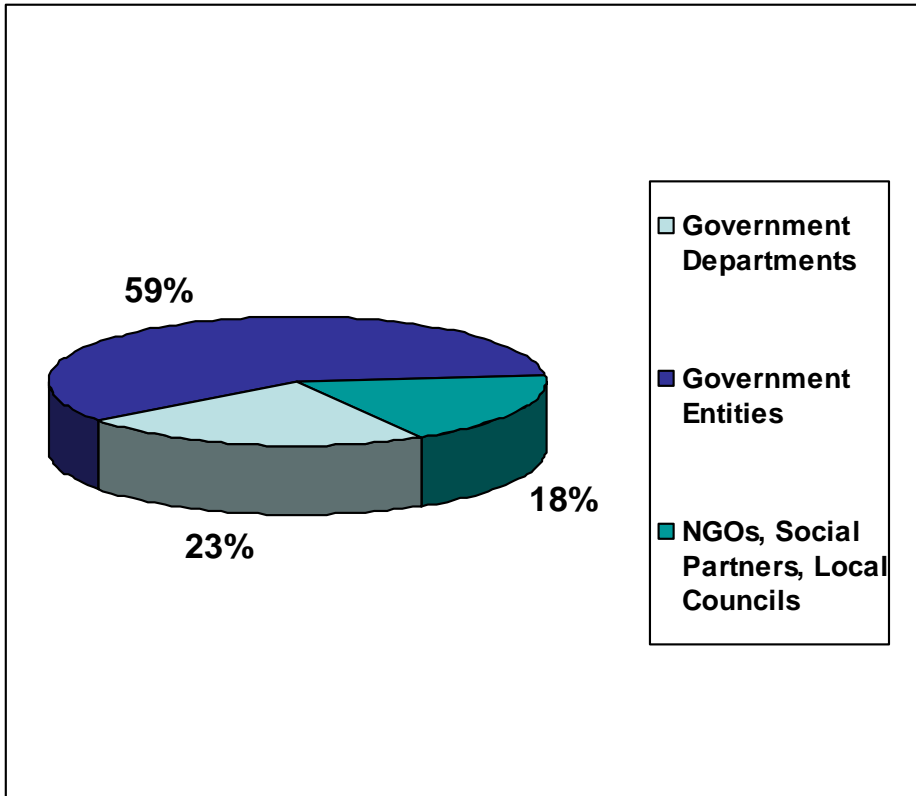
Overview

- Commitments
- Payments
- Update on Calls
- First Projects to be completed
- Financial Management
- Aid Schemes
- Monitoring and Reporting
- Structural Funds Database
- Information and Publicity
- Evaluation and Training
- Concluding Remarks

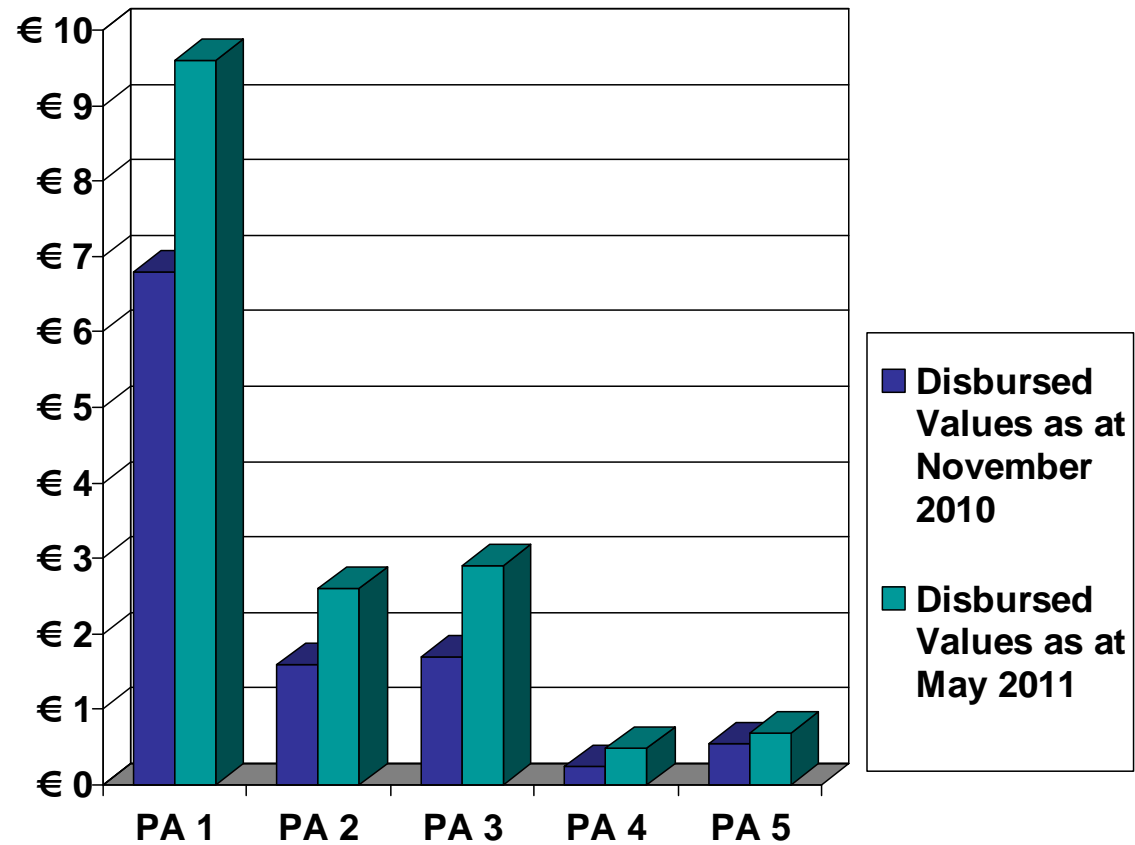
Commitments



% of Projects based on Number of Projects

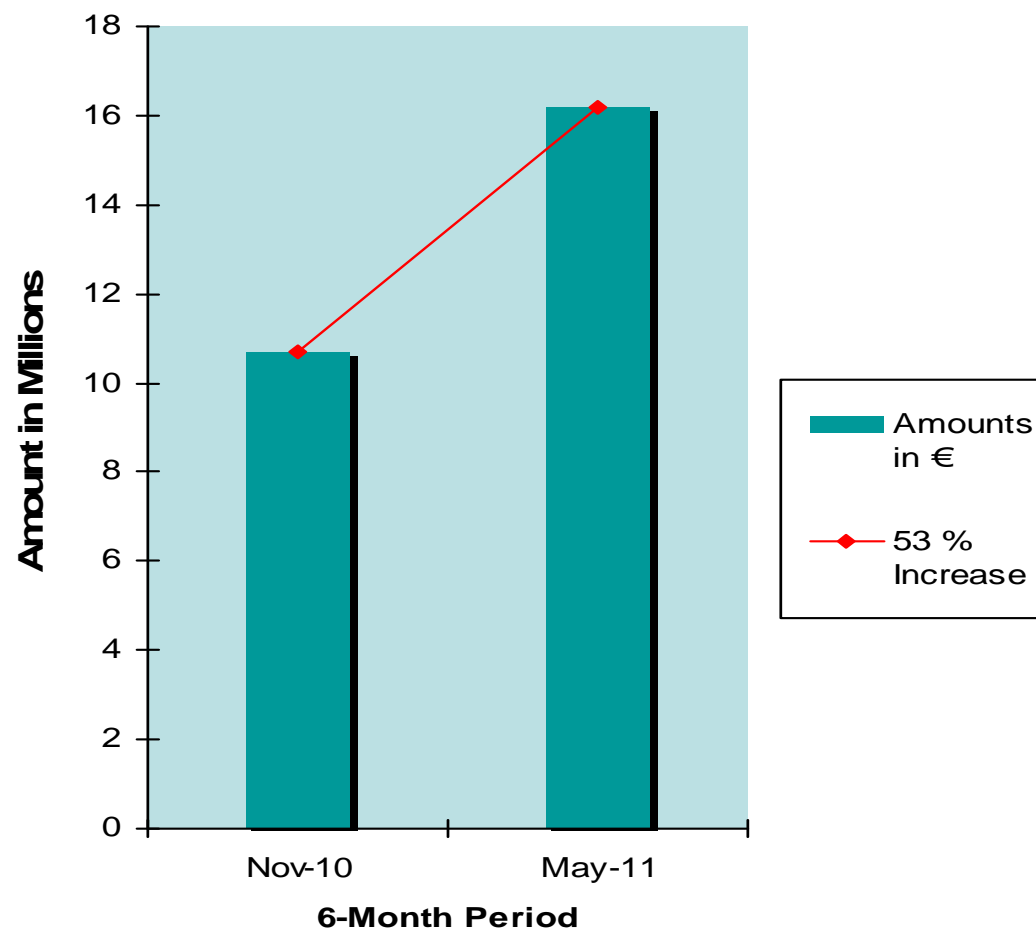


Payments



Payments Progress Made

Progress made in Disbursed Amounts	
As at Nov 2010	€10,653,673
As at May 2011	€16,267,088
% increase in 6 months	53%



Update on Calls 6 + 7



Call 6, PA 1 and PA 3:

- Evaluation under PA 1 completed
- PA 3 – clarification stage - expected to be concluded by mid-June

Call 7, PA 2 and PA 4:

- Evaluation is underway
- The call is expected to be concluded by mid-August 2011



New Calls for Project Proposals in 2011

In Q3 and Q4 of 2011, the following calls for Project Proposals are being planned:

- Priority Axis 3
- Priority Axis 4

More information on the upcoming calls shall be provided by the Managing Authority in the coming weeks

First Projects to be Completed

Project Ref.	Name of Project	End Date of GA	Results
ESF1.21	Parents and Teachers Fusion ICT Training Programme	March 2011	<u>Output:</u> 469 persons trained through capacity building courses; 2 actions supporting education quality, relevance, structures, systems, campaigns and research <u>Results:</u> 82% participants gained qualification
ESF1.40	Science Popularisation Campaign	March 2011	<u>Output:</u> 3 activities carried out; 18 persons trained through capacity building courses <u>Results:</u> 94% of the participants gained qualification
ESF3.42	An Independent living training service for disabled people in Malta	May 2011	<u>Output:</u> 125 persons trained in capacity building courses <u>Results:</u> 95% of the participants gained qualification

Expenditure Table

Financial Management (1)

	PA 1	PA 2	PA 3	PA 4	PA 5
Contracted Value as at November 2010	€16,031,228	€8,764,509	€10,221,420	€613,914	€1,873,285
Contracted Value as at May 2011	€18,704,489	€10,933,092	€12,179,591	€2,731,261	€1,921,270
% increase in Contracted Values	+ 17%	+ 25%	+ 19%	+ 345%	+ 3%
Disbursed Value as at November 2010	€6,755,653	€1,647,913	€1,682,386	€25,272	€542,449
Disbursed Value as at May 2011	€9,630,088	€2,578,235	€2,893,669	€478,589	€686,507
% increase in Disbursed Values	+ 43%	+ 56%	+ 72%	+ 1794%	+ 27%

Planning and Priorities Co-ordination Department

Office of the Prime Minister



Financial Management (2) Overview of Operational Programme II



Description	Total May 2011
OP Allocation	€131,764,705
Committed Allocation	€76,527,848
<i>% of OP allocation</i>	58.08%
Contracted Value	€46,469,701
<i>% of Committed Allocation</i>	60.72%
Disbursed Value	€16,267,088
<i>% of Contracted Amounts</i>	35.01%



Financial Management (2)

From November 2010 until May 2011, there were 2 Statements of Expenditure for OP II:

	January 2011	April 2011
No. of invoices raised	868	315
Amount verified (public eligible)	€3,295,251	€1,860,607
Amount certified (public eligible)	€3,295,251	To be confirmed at a later stage

Financial Management (3)

Verified and Certified Amounts (Public Eligible Amounts)		
	As at November 2010	As at May 2011
Verified Public Expenditure	€6,272,211	€11,427,242
Certified Public Expenditure	€6,271,384	€9,566,635

Payments from EC (EU amounts only)		
	As at November 2010	As at May 2011
Interim Payments	€3,182,719	€8,131,640
Advance Payments	€10,080,000	€10,080,000
Total Payments	€ 13,262,719	€ 15,410,677

Financial Control

On-the-Spot Checks carried out in 2011



MA Documentary OTS:	
No. of OTS Reports finalised in 2011	27
Total no. of OTS Visits	35
Total no. of hours	230

MA Physical OTS:	
No. of physical OTS	24



Aid schemes

Training Aid Framework ESF2.65

- 2429 applications have been received to-date.
- The Grant Agreements signed amount to €3,903,079.45 :

Type of Enterprise	No. of Grant Agreements signed to-date	Amount €
Small	524	€1,171,368
Medium	368	€798,067
Large	799	€1,933,645
Totals	1,691	€3,903,079.45

Total Grant Amount allocated: €8,851,620

Total Amount Contracted: €3,903,079.45, i.e. **44% of Allocation**

Aid schemes (2)

Employment Aid Programme ESF3.64

- 2958 Applications have been received to-date

Grant Agreements signed to-date: 1425, i.e. €6,480,926:					
Male	820	57.5%	Female	605	42.5%
Disadvantaged	1,366	96%	Disabled	59	4%

Total Grant Amount allocated: €8,200,000

Total Amount Contracted: €6,480,926, i.e. 79% of Allocation

Monitoring and Reporting Structures (1)

- **Project Progress Reports**
 - 44 Project Progress Reports were received on 28th January 2011 for Q4 2010
 - As from 2011 Project Progress Reports will be covering a 6 month period
- **Ministerial Project Steering Committees**
 - 7 Ministerial Project Steering Committees were held between in 2011
- **IB Network Meetings**
 - 1 IB Network Meeting (Meeting on the Implementation of IB Aid Schemes) was held on 21st February 2011

Monitoring and Reporting Structures (2)

- **Intermediate Bodies Steering Committee**
 - The next Intermediate Body Steering Committee is being planned for 1st June 2011
- **Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee**
 - 1 Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee on EU Human Capital Investment Funding Programmes was held on 21st February 2011
- **High Level Meetings**
 - PPS High Level Meetings
 - 9 different Projects have been reviewed in 2011
 - Cabinet Update
 - A Cabinet Update was provided in March 2011 and in May 2011.

Structural Funds Database



- ***New modules and reports released in February 2011:***
 - Expenditure Reports (for reporting purposes)
 - Release of Expenditure Type Reporting
 - On-the-spot module
- ***Guidance notes provided on Financial planning and funds allocation as well as Closure***
- ***Updating of System Manuals***



Information and Publicity



- Terms of Reference for Annual Event 2011
- More Promotional Material being drafted
- PPCD website updated regularly
- Review of Communication Plan currently ongoing



Evaluation Activities

EC Level Evaluations



- ***Participation in Evaluation Partnership Meeting***
- ***Evaluations being carried out:***
 - Evaluation of the reaction of the ESF to the economic and financial crisis being carried out by Metis GmbH (DG EMPL)
 - Setting up of Expert Evaluation Network being carried out by Metis GmbH (DG EMPL)
 - Systems designed to assess the effectiveness of Operational Programmes on active ageing (European Court of Auditors)
 - Mid-Term Evaluation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Funds carried out by GHK Consulting Ltd. (DG EMPL)



Evaluation Activities

Programme Level Evaluations



- ***Forthcoming Thematic Evaluations:***
 - The Terms of Reference for “Assessment of the contribution of OP II initiatives to education and lifelong learning” are currently being drafted

- ***Cohort Study:***
 - Terms of Reference were finalized and contract with NSO being finalised



Mid-Term Evaluation



- Objectives were to assess the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of OP II.
- An Internal factors workshop was held on 14 January 2011.
- Final Mid-Term Evaluation Report on OP II was submitted to the MA on *7 April 2011*



Mid-Term Evaluation Outcomes (Brief Overview)

- Relevance:
 - the OP is still relevant in today's socio-economic context
 - there is a balance between policies and the activities being co-financed

- Efficiency:
 - evidence of 'ramping up' supporting the view that current process leading up to approval of projects does not present major indication of bottlenecks

- Effectiveness:
 - for most part, planned achievement percentages of output and result indicators show healthy prospects of likely achievement

Communication Plan Review



- Final Report on the Communication Plan (by the MTE) was submitted to the MA on 13 April 2011
- The MA has taken the findings of the MTE into consideration and is currently concluding the review
- The revision will provide for:
 - a better monitoring structure of information and publicity;
 - a strategy which is more focused on the promotion of tangible results; and
 - reduction in overlaps between the different stakeholders.



Training and Capacity Building



- ***At MA level: 12 January 2011***
 - 5 officers from the Financial Control Unit within the MA participated in in-house training on the Assurance Model and Modification to Article 55 'Revenue Generating Projects'
- ***At Programme Level: 29 March 2011***
 - 13 officers from the MA participated in the seminar directed by the European Court of Auditors on 'Sound Financial Management of EU Funds'
 - Other participants included the CA, AA, NAO, IBs, Beneficiaries and Ministries
- Several other training courses were attended overseas namely the New Member States Conference on Cohesion Policy attended by 2 officers from the MA and the 5th Cohesion Forum attended by 2 officers representing MCESD, 1 officer from ETC and 1 from the Ministry for Gozo.



Concluding Remarks on Implementation in 2011

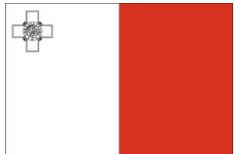


- Clearly the usual issues of procurement and payments continue to be a challenge for most Beneficiaries
- Despite efforts, payments on the Aid Schemes, particularly TAF, are still not flowing at the desired pace
- On the positive side – there has been a 24% increase in contracting and 53% increase in payments in the last 5 months
- In terms of results, 37,524 persons were trained under the OP till the end of 2010





Thank you!



Operational Programme II – Cohesion Policy 2007-2013
Empowering People for More Jobs and a Better Quality of Life
Event part-financed by the European Union
European Social Fund (ESF)
Co-financing rate: 85% EU Funds; 15% National Funds



Investing in your future

Planning and Priorities Co-ordination Department
Office of the Prime Minister

