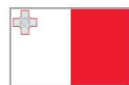


Operational Programme II

Investing in Human Capital to Create More Opportunities and Promote the Well-being of Society

Annual Implementation Report 2019 and Update on Implementation



European Union
European Structural and Investment Funds



Overview

- Overview of Operational Programme II implementation
- Programme Commitment Table
- Update by PA on progress
- Territorial earmarking
- Update on Simplified Cost Options under OP II
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Communication Activities
- Capacity Building Activities
- Audits
- Concluding Remarks

Overview of Operational Programme II Implementation

By end 2019:

- Programme was fully committed
- 38 projects incl. 2 Aid schemes and 1 Financial instrument were under implementation
- Over 25,000 persons benefitted/benefitting from ESF (53% women)
 - 26% attended capacity building activities
 - 45% training for vulnerable persons
 - 29% other type activities (incl educational)

ESF in numbers

€132 Million

38 projects

25,000 persons supported

10% support for Gozo

6 new VET Masters

New contact line VASTE 1711

1 Financial instrument

6 research activities concluded

Over 6,500 Physical checks carried out

1058 scholarships supported

16 projects implemented with/by an Ngo/social partner

2 aid schemes

31 audits in 2019

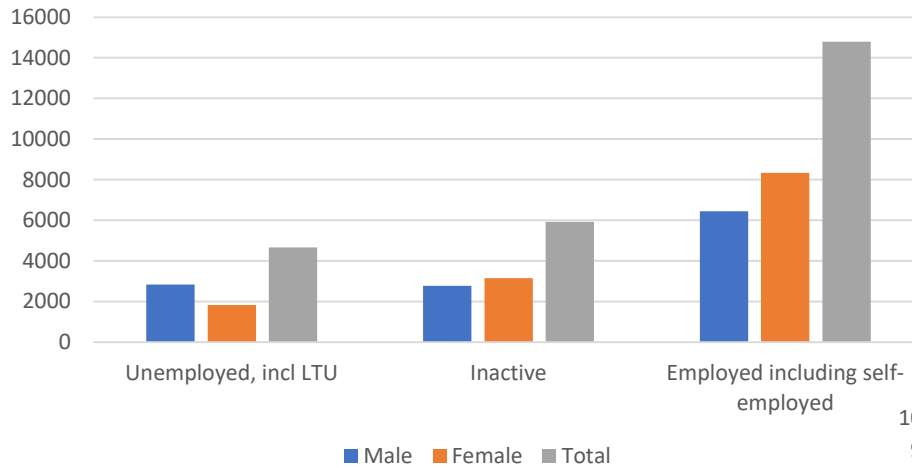
4 awareness raising campaigns supported in 2019

Over 1,000 companies benefitting

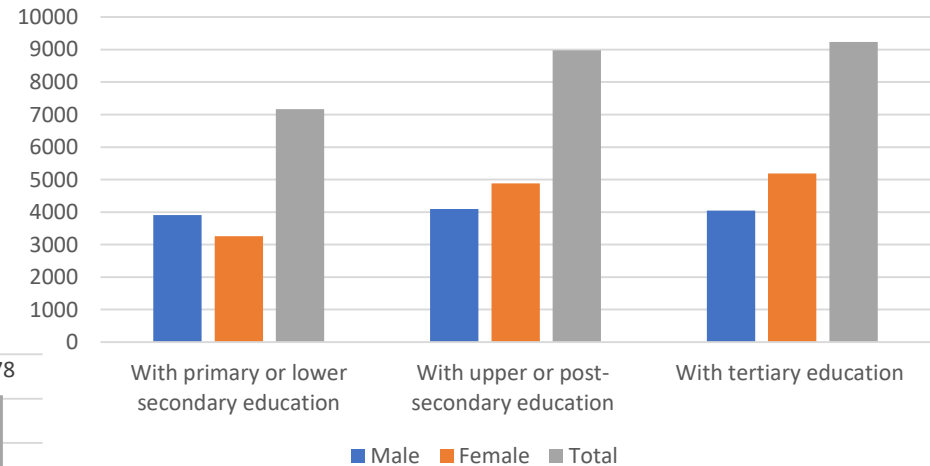
28 mystery shopping of the public administration

Overview of people supported

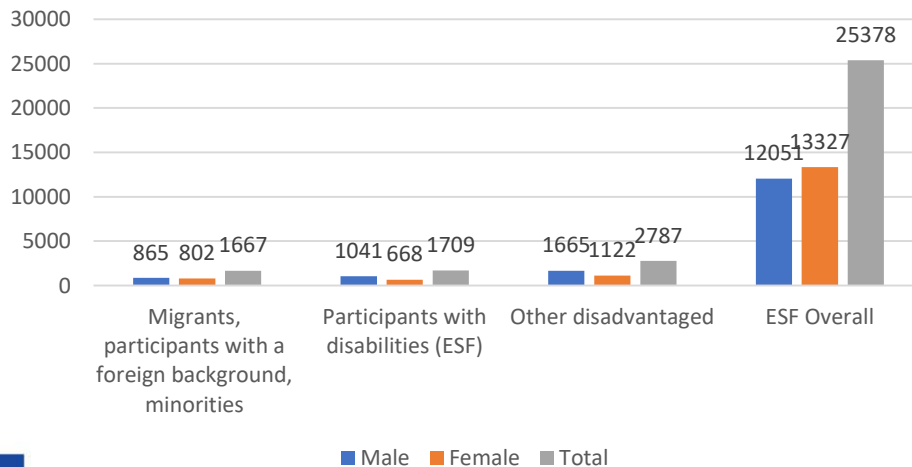
Employment status - overall



Educational level - overall

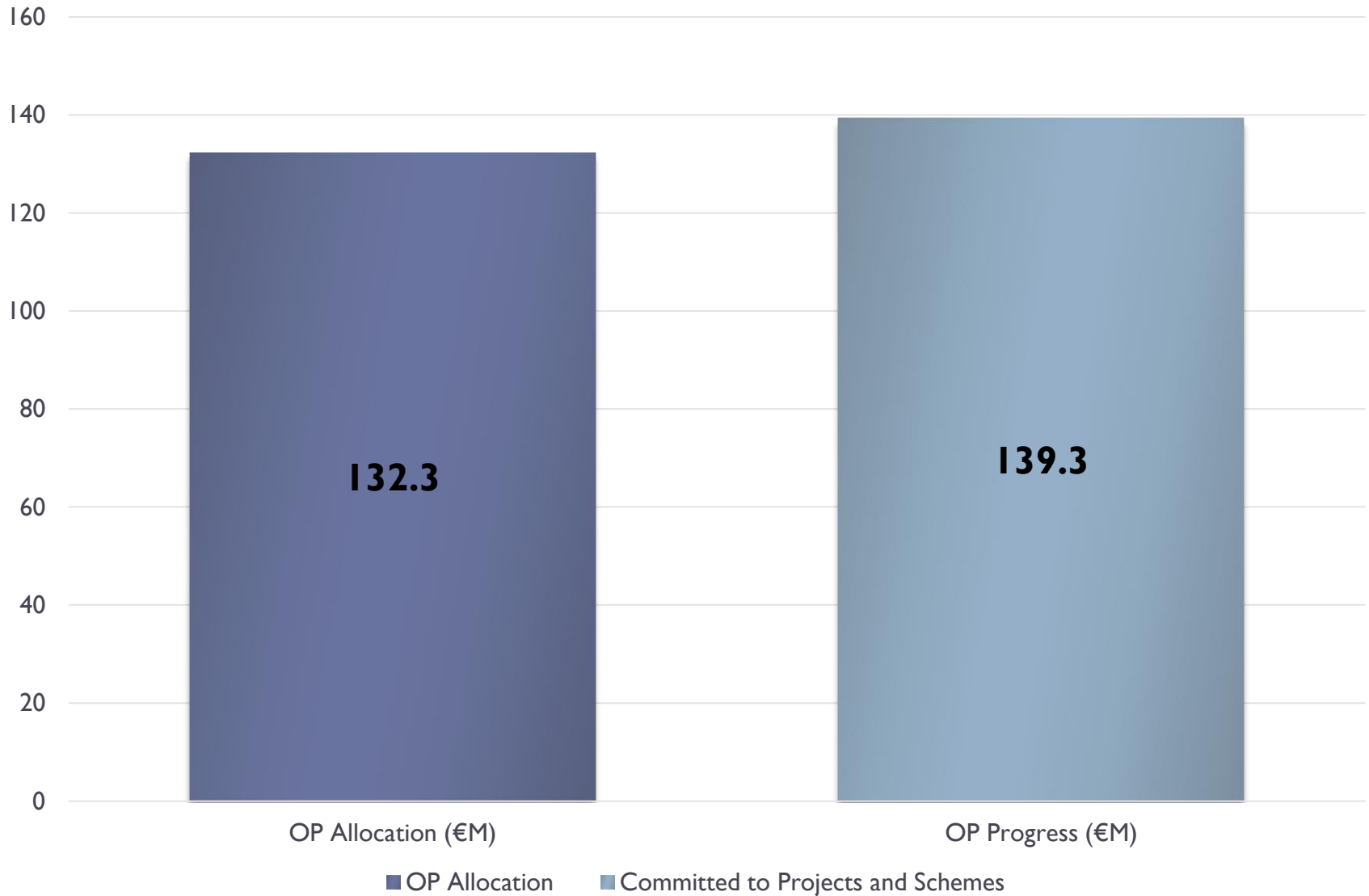


No. of vulnerable groups supported - overall

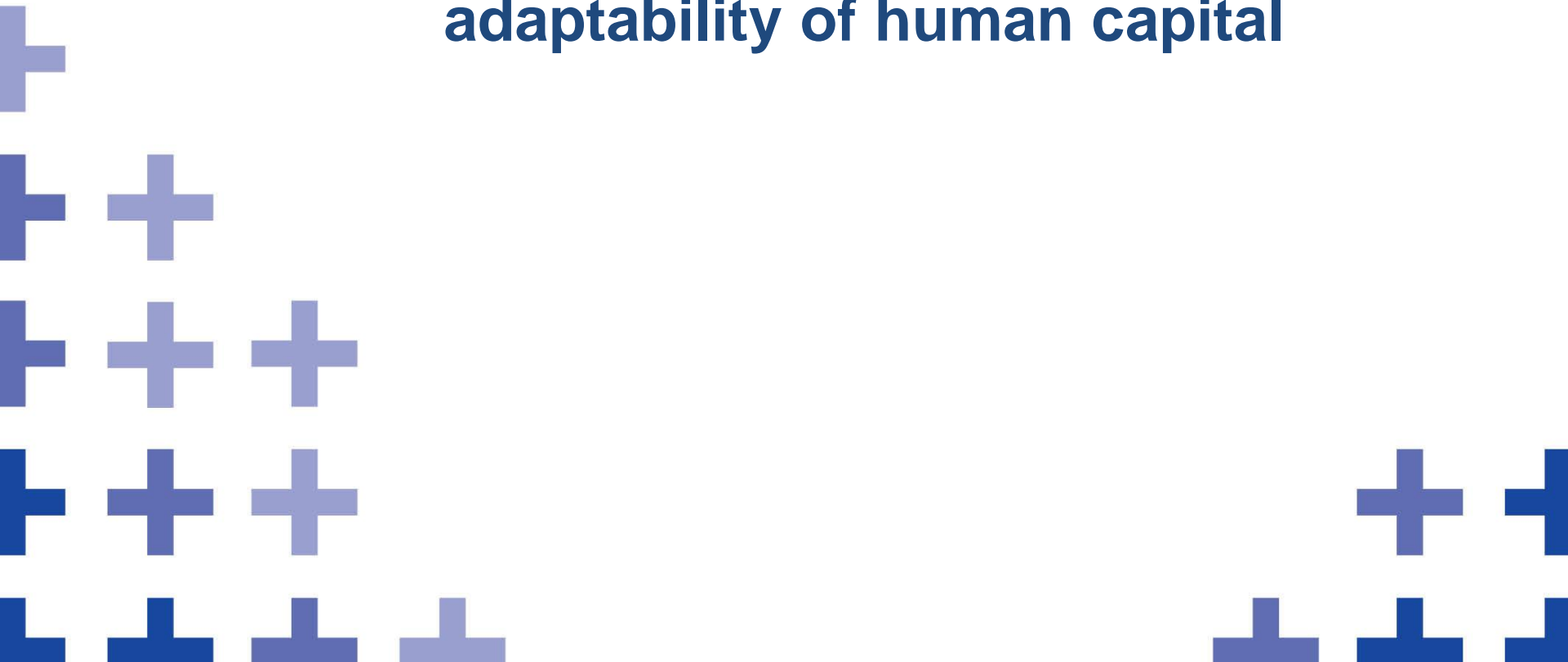


* Data as at end 2019

Programme Commitment Table



PA 1 - Investing in the employability and adaptability of human capital



Priority Axis 1 - Investing in the employability and adaptability of human capital

Allocation	Investment Priority	Projects Approved incl. Schemes	Total Commitment
EUR26M	IP8i - Access to employment for job seekers and inactive people	2	EUR21.5M
	IP8ii - Sustainable integration of young people in employment	1	EUR5.9M
	Total	3	EUR27.4M

Access to Employment Scheme (IP8i)

as at end 2019

- 255 grants signed in 2019 and value of €1.8M
 - Of which 42% of new participants in 2019 were from target group 8 (persons with disability)
- a total of 1261 (50% women) unique participants supported
- 778 unique employers participating

- As at end of 2019, 66% of the A2E budget was committed (€7.9M); Of which 71% has been disbursed to beneficiaries

- 86% of participants who completed scheme incl. retention period were still in employment after this period. 95% of these remained employed with the same Company with which they participated in the scheme

Access to Employment Scheme (IP8i)

Overview with regards to Size of Undertaking:

Size of Undertaking	No. of unique beneficiaries	No. of participants	Value of Grant Agreement
Micro	320	529	€ 2,850,000
Small	124	342	€ 1,875,000
Medium	97	220	€ 1,920,000
Large	32	219	€ 1,274,000
Total	1,230*	1,310*	€ 7,919,000

* including duplicates

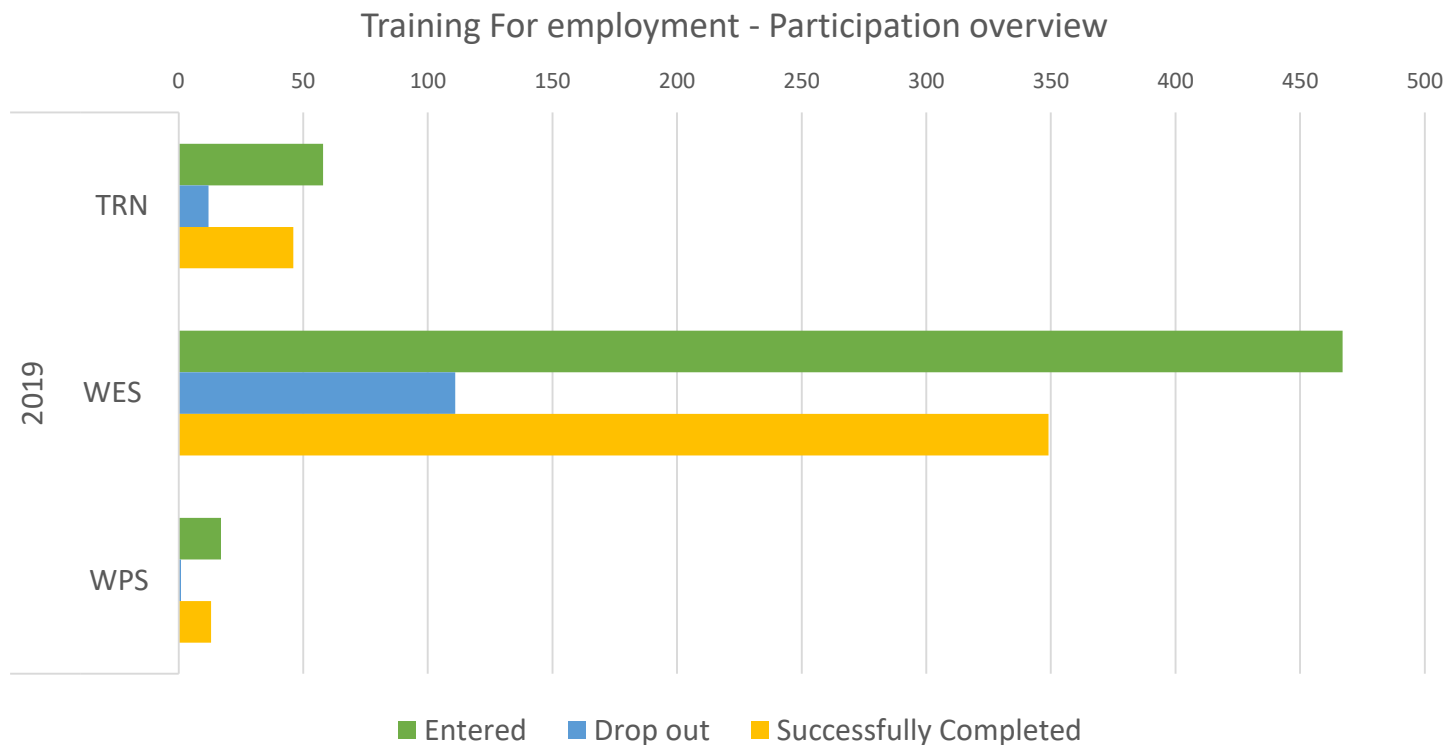
Training for Employment (IP8i)

- ▶ The project is ongoing, with now two activities which are completed:
 - (i) Occupational Handbook concluded in 2018 and
 - (ii) Arduous Jobs research concluded in 2019 carried out in order to identify the occupations pertaining to the category of arduous jobs and at the same time identify segments of the market where these employees could be redeployed. The research provided three major areas on which policy makers should focus on. These are providing 'Early-exit' opportunities, fostering lifelong learning and re-skilling and formal monitoring of workers' health.

- ▶ Changes in 2019:
 - ▶ **Traineeships** as from April 2019 simplified to one single scheme - *Foundation in Employability Skills*
 - ▶ **Work Exposure Scheme** also improved its design, allowing more flexibility to the participant

- ▶ Update on **work carried out with partners**:
 - ▶ Collaborated with Malta Enterprise and social partners (Malta Employers association, Malta Chamber of SMEs, Chamber of Commerce) for the promotion of Traineeships and Work Exposure Scheme

Training for employment (IP8i)



- ▶ Up to end 2019, 2,154 participants have entered any of the schemes (of which 57% women, 62% below 25 years of age, and 2% above 54 years of age, 34% ISCED level 1 or 2 and 51% ISCED level 3 or 4)
- ▶ There are several reasons why participants decide to drop out from the schemes such as because they find employment or pursue education. If participants decide to register for work these are then followed by an employment advisor.

Youth Guarantee 2.0 (IP8ii)

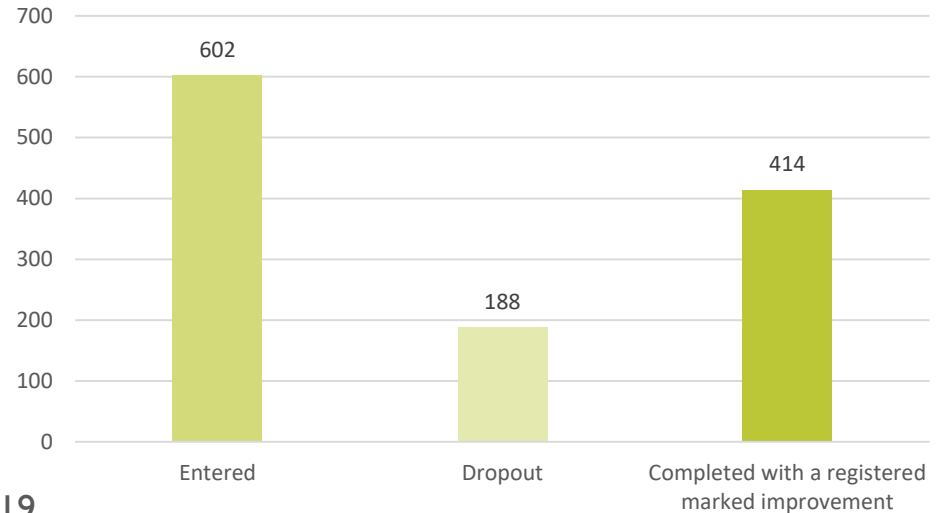
- ▶ All projects activities are ongoing; however in 2019 the ICT Summer classes were not held due to tendering appeal issue which delayed the process.
- ▶ Up to end 2019, 3,382 youths were supported (49% women)
- ▶ NEET activation scheme:
 - ▶ Survey with employers and participants demonstrated satisfaction with the scheme.
 - ▶ In 2019 the eligibility age was reduced to 15 years, to allow participants just completing obligatory schooling to immediately enter the scheme.
- ▶ Results in 2019
 - ▶ SEC and MCAST Preventative classes were both successful with 69%* and 88%* respectively.
 - ▶ In the case of the NEET Activation scheme 58% of participants experienced a change in their status, i.e. are in education or training, gained a qualification or certification or are in employment, including self-employment upon leaving the scheme.
 - ▶ The first re-run of the Professional Up-skilling Course was implemented in 2019. 26 professionals working with vulnerable youths were awarded with a Level 3 certificate.

* *Registering a mark improvement*

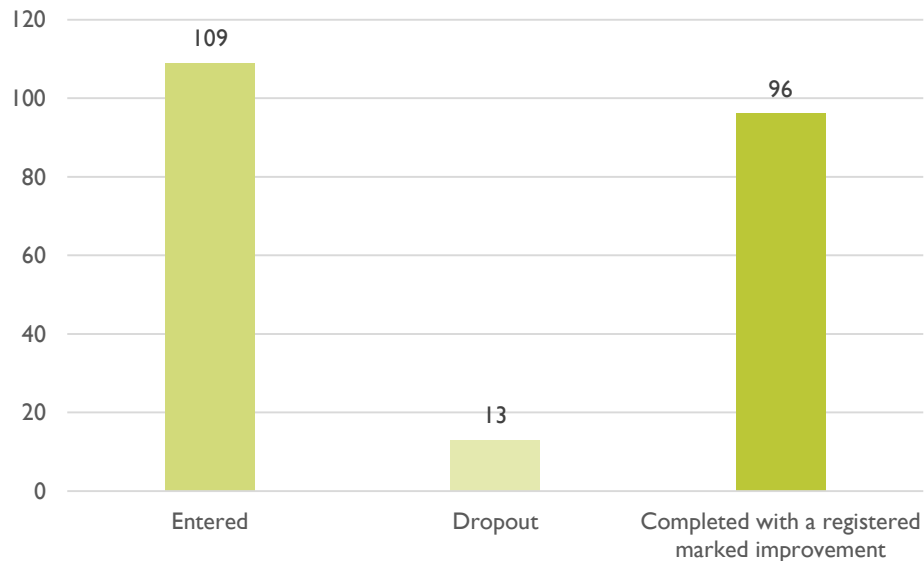
Youth Guarantee 2.0 (IP8ii)

> Participation overview

SEC PREVENTION CLASSES 2019



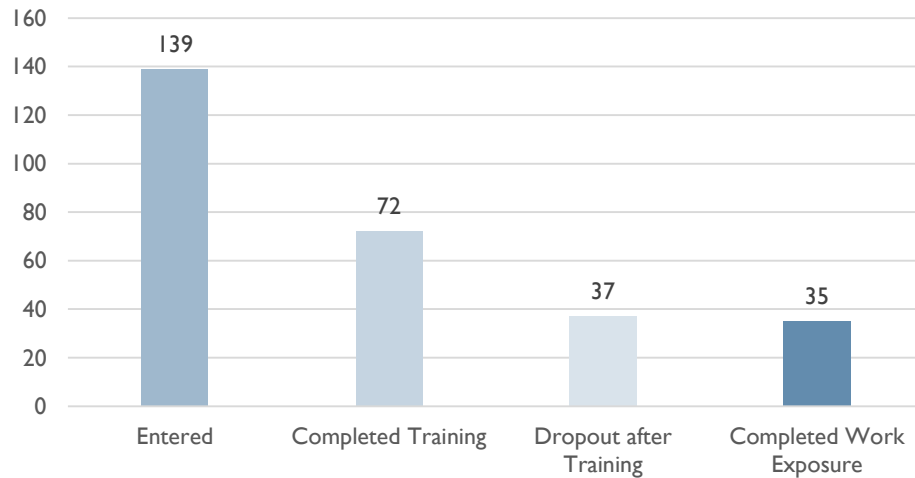
MCAST PREVENTION CLASSES 2019



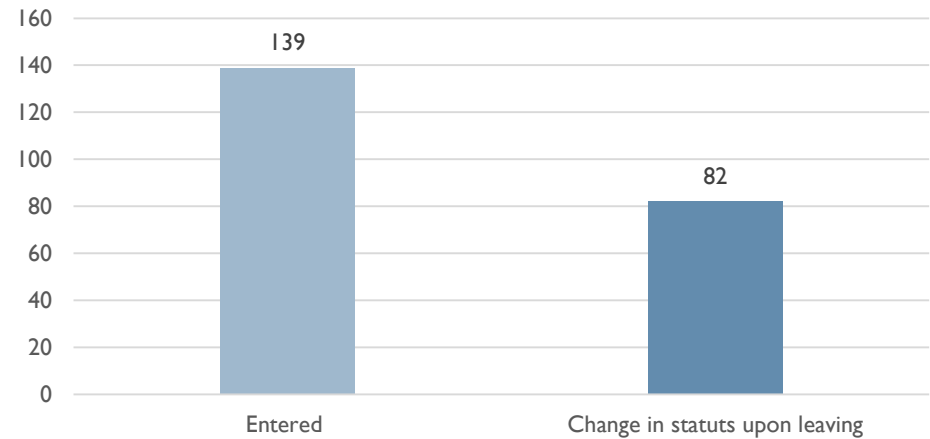
Youth Guarantee 2.0 (IP8ii)

> Participation overview

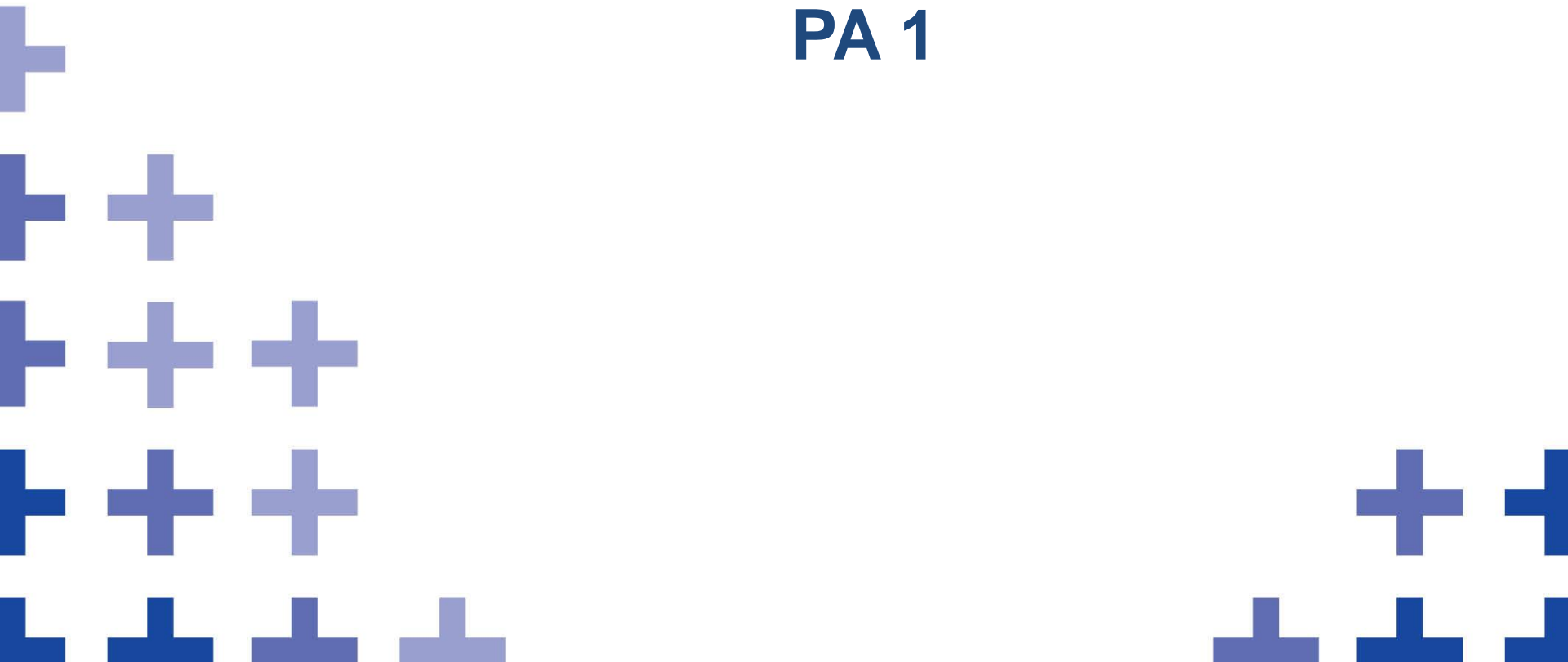
NEET ACTIVATION SCHEME 2019 - TRAINING + WORK EXPOSURE PHASE



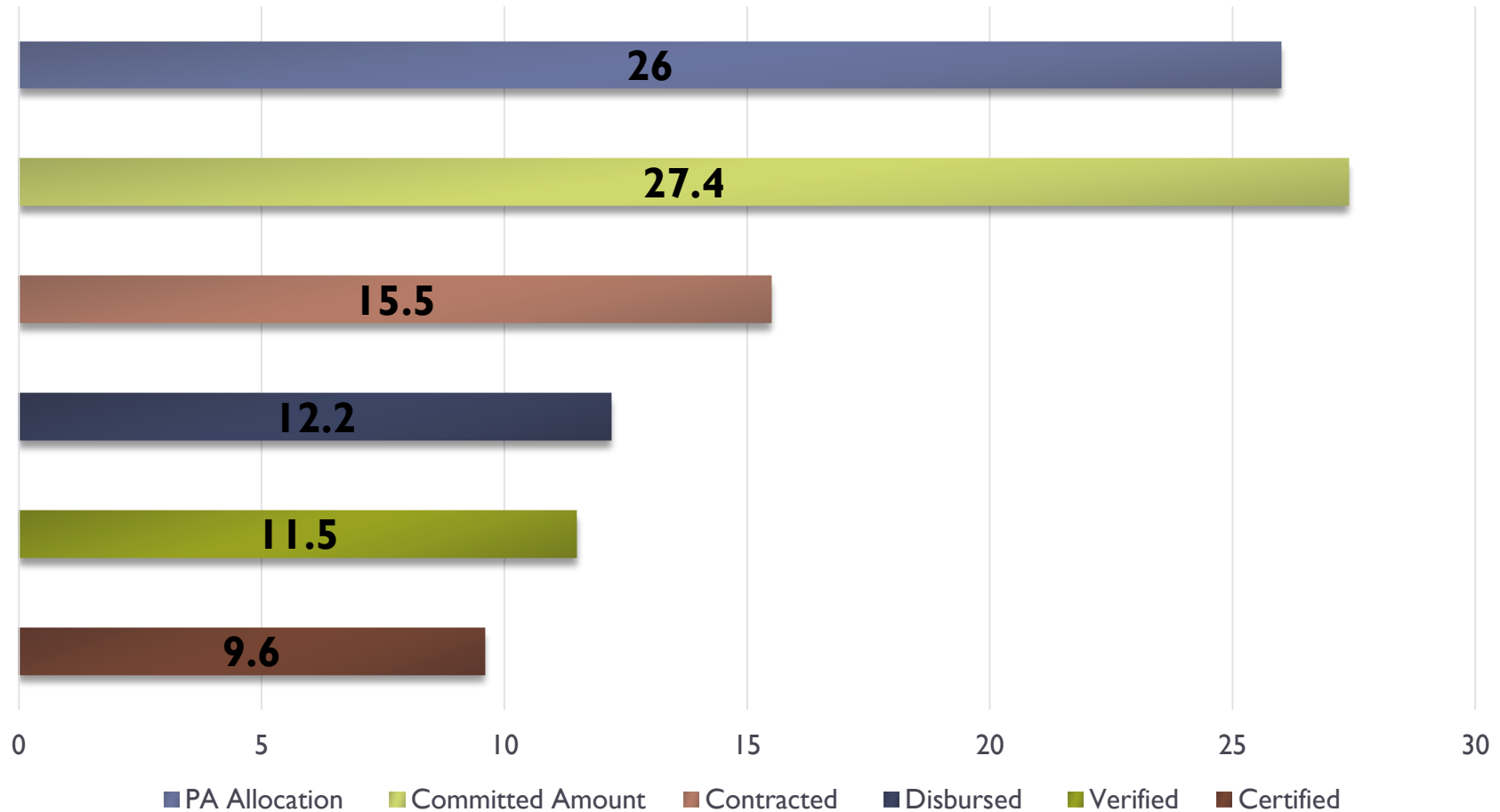
NEET ACTIVATION SCHEME 2019 - CHANGE IN STATUS AFTER LEAVING



Financial and Physical Progress PA 1

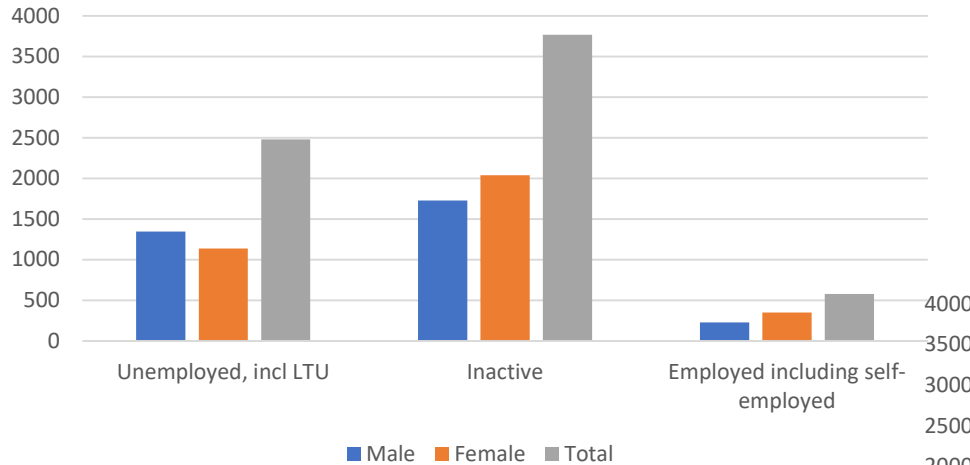


Implementation Progress – PA 1

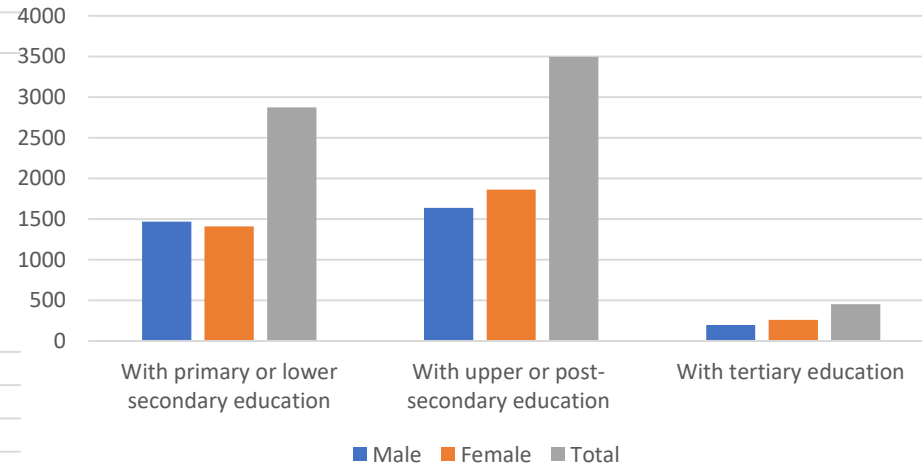


Participants overview – PA 1

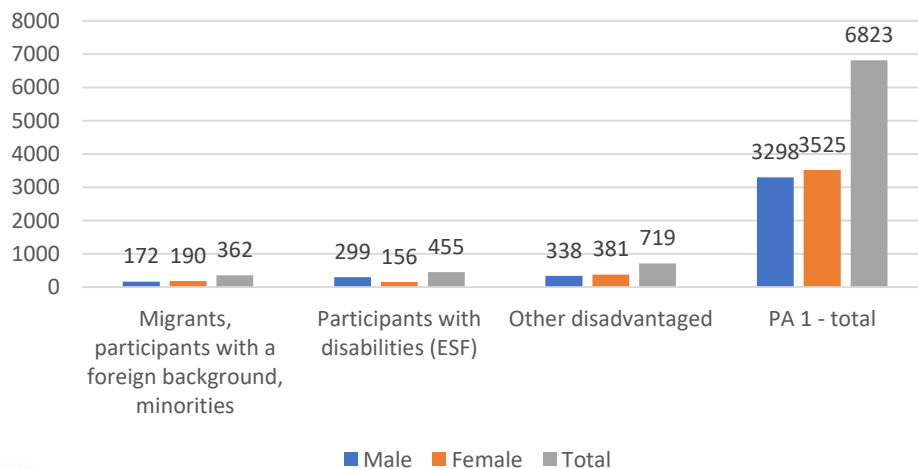
Employment Status - PA 1



Educational level - PA 1



No. of vulnerable groups supported - PA 1



Output Indicators for PA 1 (IP8i)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
CO07. Above 54 years of age	100	75	151	87	64	0
O1. Persons supported	2,900	5,978	3,264	1,477	1,786	1
O2. Capacity building measures for PES and EURES support services	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
O3. Persons supported through family friendly measures including through financial support	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
O4. Persons participating in entrepreneurship related measures	180	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 1 (IP8i)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R1. Participants in employment upon leaving	75%	75%	44%	43%	46%	0
R2. Increase in the number of participants and employers using PES and EURES services	1,700	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R3. Older workers in employment upon leaving	86%	87%	44%	48%	38%	0
R4. Women in employment upon leaving	75%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R5. Participants successfully developing a business plan and create an enterprise	35%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 1 (IP8i)

excluding ongoing

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R1. Participants in employment upon leaving	75%	75%	49%	47%	51%	0
R2. Increase in the number of participants and employers using PES and EURES services	1,700	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R3. Older workers in employment upon leaving	86%	87%	64%	63%	63%	0
R4. Women in employment upon leaving	75%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R5. Participants successfully developing a business plan and create an enterprise	35%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Output Indicators for PA 1 (IP8ii)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
CO06. Below 25 years of age	2,700	6,107	3,382	1,714	1,657	11
O5. Persons participating in up-skilling and re-training Programmes	25	35	26	8	18	0

Result Indicators for PA 1 (IP8ii)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R6. Participants below 25 who are in education/training, gaining a qualification/certification or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	70%	70%	73%	71%	74%	82%
R7. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	87%	86%	100%	100%	100%	-

Result Indicators for PA 1 (IP8ii)

excluding ongoing

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R6. Participants below 25 who are in education/training, gaining a qualification/certification or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving	70%	70%	74%	73%	75%	100%
R7. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	87%	86%	100%	100%	100%	-

PA 2 - Towards a more inclusive society



Priority Axis 2: Towards a more inclusive society

Allocation	Investment Priority	Projects Approved incl. Schemes	Total Commitment
EUR40M	IP9i - Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability	8	EUR34.5M
	IP9iv - Enhancing access to affordable, sustainable and high quality services, including health care and social services of general interest	3	EUR7.8M
	Total	11	EUR42.3M

Completed projects (IP9i)

- ▶ Work Programme Initiative (ESF.02.056)
 - ▶ Providing profiling and training opportunities to LTUs and inactive
 - ▶ Up to 2019 1,613 persons were profiled with 1,400 persons entering different training opportunities offered through the project
 - ▶ 956 persons (59%) (35% women) successfully completed the programme
 - ▶ 279 persons (16%) (32% women) were in employment upon completion/exiting of the programme

- ▶ Mental Health First Aid for Youths (ESF.02.049)
 - ▶ The Richmond Foundation trainers were trained by an expert trainer from Mental Health First Aid Australia
 - ▶ Licence and Kits were purchased from Mental Health First Aid Australia to allow Richmond to provide the training in Malta.
 - ▶ Number of training manuals developed together with learning videos
 - ▶ Mobile app developed with information tools on mental health
 - ▶ 835 persons (64% women), as well as a further 1,284 persons from own funds post project
 - ▶ A longitudinal study from own funds will be carried out post project with the participants

The VASTE Programme (IP9i)

- In 2019 the VASTE awareness campaign was launched. New contact line created 1711. Despite this, the beneficiary is exploring options to improve take up.
- All projects activities were ongoing throughout the year.
- Two Employers information sessions were carried out in 2019 to continue the programme's outreach
- **Persons trained/supported up to end 2019:**
 - **1247 unique** participants (of which 32% females) have benefitted from the services offered including pre-employment training, sheltered employment training (SET), basic ICT skills and LSF job coaching.
 - **175 unique** participants (of which 69% females) participated in up-skilling training courses
- VASTE programme continued providing tailored pathways to each participant's needs
- **40%** were in employment six months after leaving the project activities.

INK: Person Focused Inclusion (IP9i)

- In 2019, two transnational training visits were organised for frontline staff, parents, employers and clients, these were done in collaboration with KARE project partner.
- 3 new groups started training in 2019
- Introduction of digital literacy module in training course
- 193 unique PwD participants (46% women) have benefitted from the services offered; with 116 completed/exited of which 61% were successful
- 334 unique participants (69% women) trained as part of upskilling activities for employers, front-liners and parents/next of kin
- Beneficiary implemented various outreach measures to improve take up, including collaboration with Jobsplus and Ministry for the family, children's rights and social solidarity.

Knowledge, Training, Communications and Support Measures in Support of Vulnerable Groups (IP9i)

In 2019 further capacity building opportunities for person working vulnerable persons were offered including through sponsorships to NGOs and public organisations working with vulnerable groups.

Training and intervention services for vulnerable groups was also provided through:

- Home based therapeutic services with over 6,000 interventions scheduled, of which 75% of appointments were kept
- Dun Manwel Attard resource centre – specialised training such as Creative Movement Practitioner and Equine Assisted (horse) Therapy – aimed at low-ability youths with complex needs.

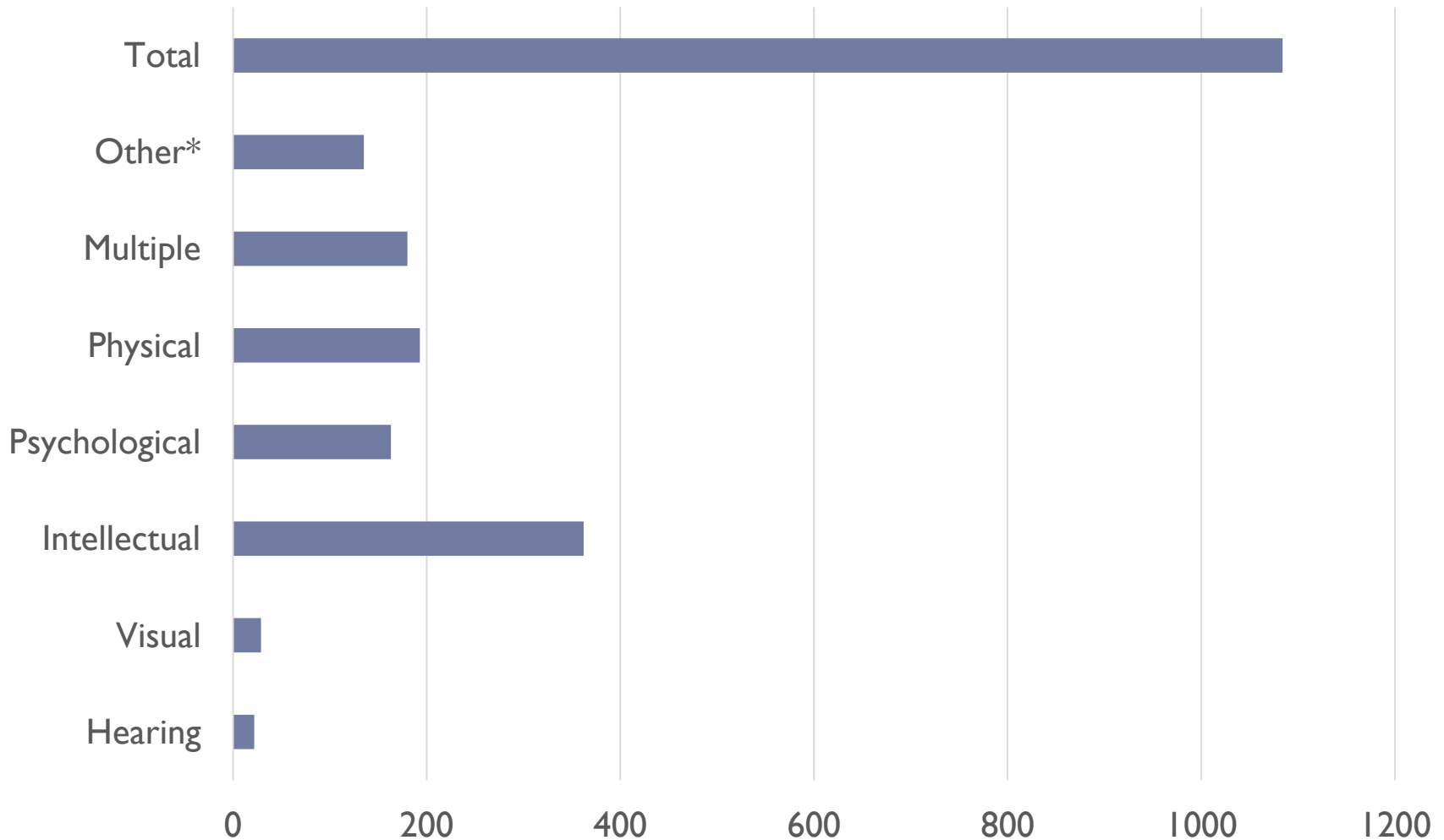
Awareness Campaign on financial literacy and retirement income commenced

Research on the Current Situation of Disabled People and employment in Malta and drawing up of guidelines commenced in early 2019. Another two research activities where started towards end of 2019 and are expected to be concluded by 2020

New activity led by MFIN tied to policy-making in the area of social protection systems which is a critical area when it comes to addressing the at risk of poverty cohort.

Overview of PwD supported under 3 ESF projects with specific activities

EU funds | 2014
for Malta | 2020



* Unspecified genetic impairments & Unspecified other impairments

Adding Value: Nurturing Learning Journeys at the MCAST Foundation College (IP9i)

The aim of this project is that of *creating long-term structures, processes and resources* through which vulnerable groups can be supported to gain employment.

- The first prototype of the OTIS platform was developed successfully in 2019, further work is ongoing.
- By 2019, 32 skills kit were developed and were being delivered.
 - Challenges encountered on student drop out from such courses
 - Sessions will started being held in the morning and in different locations as a mitigation measure.
- Research on Gamification – ongoing; preliminary work consisted in. evaluation of the MCAST curriculum for the key subjects to be gamified in order to develop innovative support structures to increase student engagement while making learning more fun was performed.
- Research on mentoring and challenging barriers – ongoing. Preliminary findings show that when students are made to feel empowered and respected, personal, social and academic progress is registered. In early 2020 research will continue with ex-MCAST students who dropped out from their course

P4E@CCF (IP9i)

- ▶ In 2019, the **11 working groups** have completed the following deliverables in each of the respective areas*:
 - ▶ Policy document
 - ▶ Identification of core and enabling strategies and
 - ▶ Plan and procedures for implementation
 - ▶ As well as development of the design of a sentence plan model for CCF
- ▶ Work on **continuous evaluation** was ongoing aimed at ensuring relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact of each deliverable.
- ▶ These policies have provided the necessary foundations for the courses planned for 2020, consisting of training for staff and training for inmates.
- ▶ Investment in necessary equipment and training set up took place in 2019 in line with training needs identified.

* *Education, Health, Cognitive behavioural challenges, Biopsychological well-being, Applying Restorative Justice, Transition of Inmates into the labour market, Inclusion, Sentence planning and implementation, Transversal affairs: Security, environment, diversity, multiculturalism and quality assurance*

Take action against problem gambling in Malta (IP9i)

- ▶ In 2019, a draft policy report was prepared following the completion of a research exercise aimed at analysing the Maltese gambling perceptions and the risk of problem gambling amongst the whole Maltese population.
 - ▶ 42% of Maltese population gambled during past year (i.e. gambled between: 10eur/month up to 20000 eur/month)
 - ▶ Whilst only 16% of the youth population gambled during same period
 - ▶ Majority of sampled population spent less than 10 eur/month
 - ▶ 8% of sampled population gamble between 1001- 20,000 eur/month
 - ▶ The time spent by youths on gambling is less than an hour, with 14% spend from 1 to 8 hours per week.
- ▶ Preparatory work for project training activities was underway, with the majority of training to be held as from 2020.

Developing Allied Health Capacity to Sustain Health Care Needs (IP9iv)

- ▶ Currently 8 students have been successfully promoted to their second year of studies
- ▶ 6 new trainees started a 3-year course in this scholastic year (2019/2020)
- ▶ Partners in the project are facilitating in the placements for the students

Non-Technical Skills Training for Healthcare Personnel (IP9iv)

- ▶ 800 healthcare (60% women) personnel trained or in ongoing training
- ▶ With over 600 (60% women) successfully completing the course
- ▶ Project partners are facilitating the promotion of training opportunities to their members, including providing feedback on how to improve take up

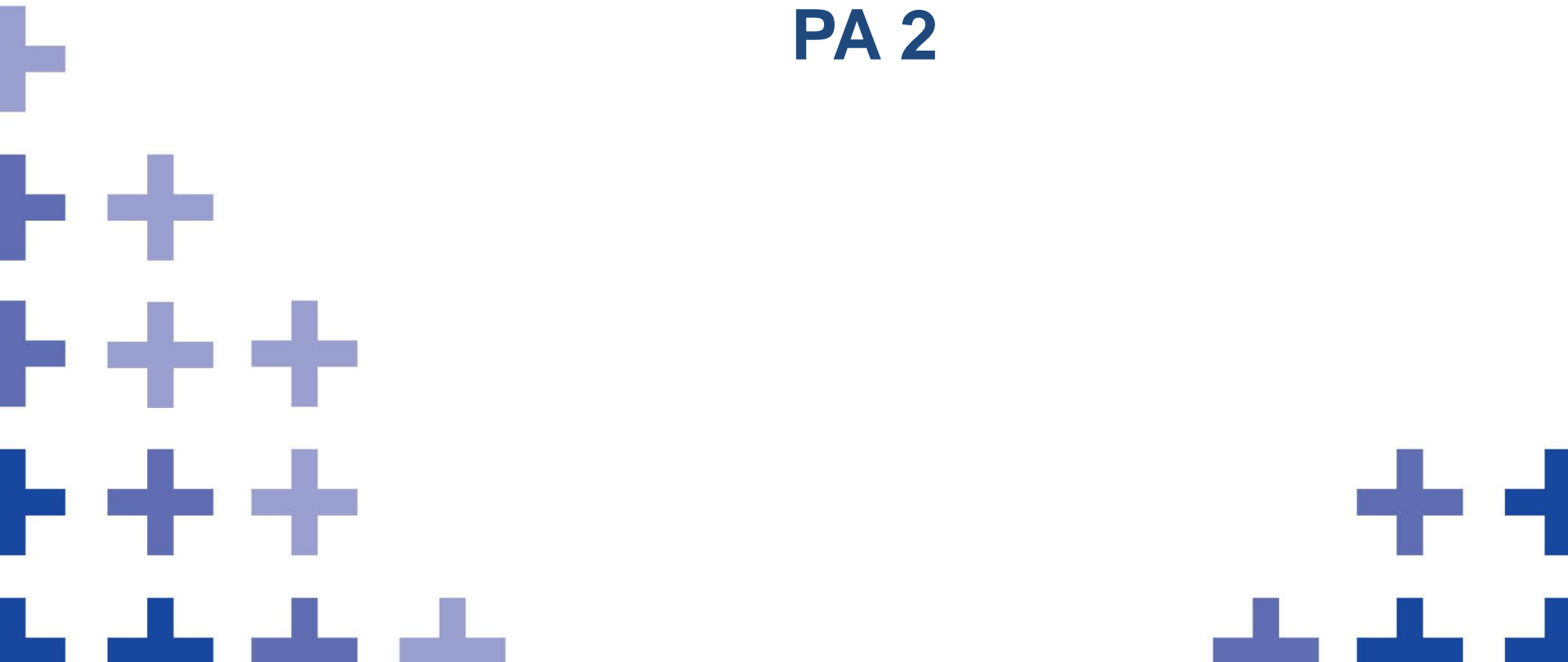
Establishing a National Platform to address Social Determinants of Health (SDH) (IP9iv)

- In November 2019, **training** started for :
 - Healthcare professionals and mental health and
 - Public officers on raising awareness on importance of social determinants of health as part of the health-in-all-policies.

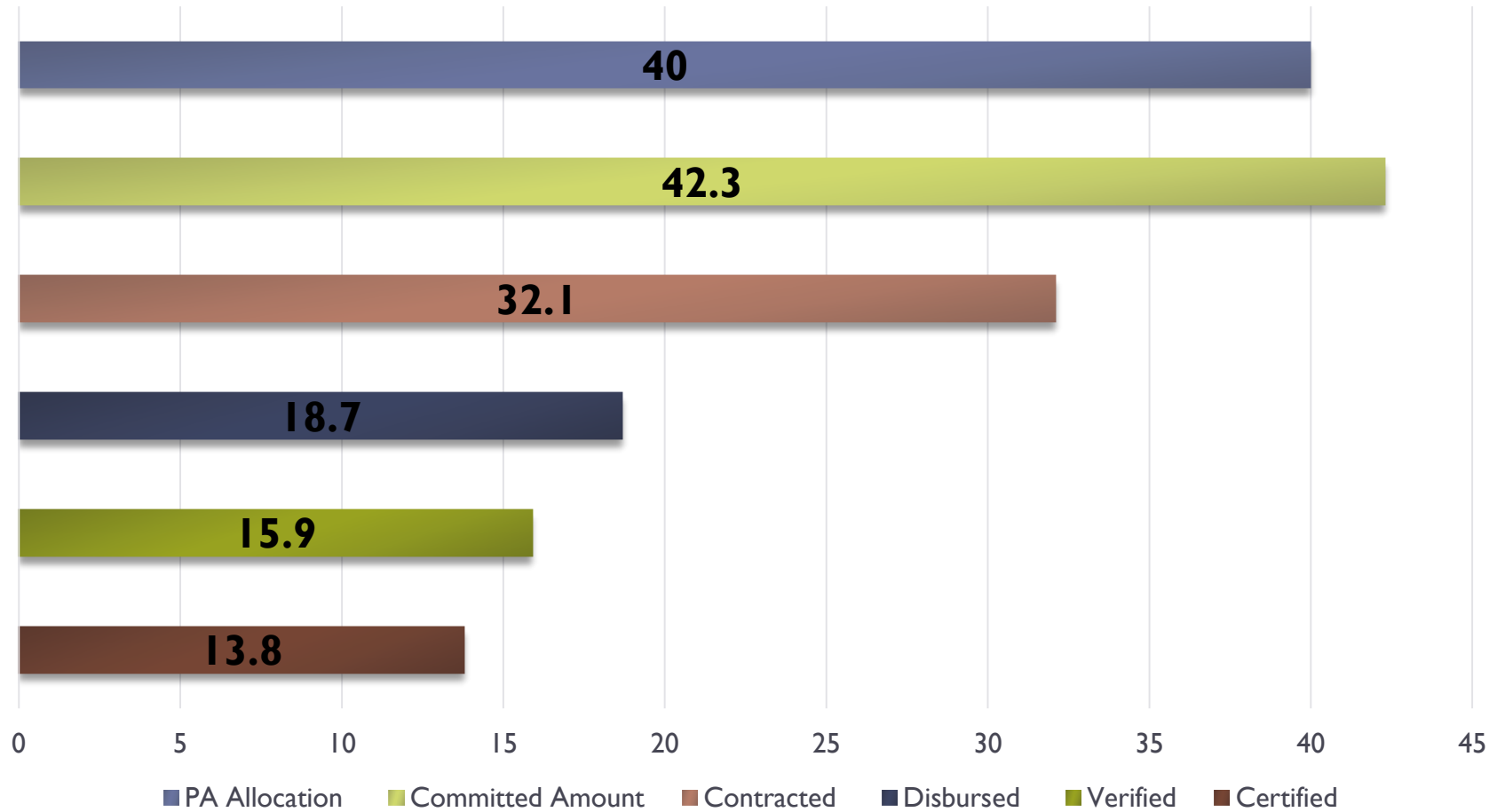
- **Qualitative research** on SDH completed with 250 in depth interviews
 - Following identified as factors: Income, education, lifestyle habits, social status, ethnicity, gender, housing and the environment (including possible multiple drivers and reflects their area of work)
- Research on developing a tool for **empowerment of educators on SDH** also completed
 - Identified regions in which poverty is more predominant
 - Assessed link to educational attainment, and Identified different forms of social exclusion
 - Identified ways how educators can create inclusive school

- **Quantitative research** nationwide nearing completion

Financial and Physical Progress PA 2

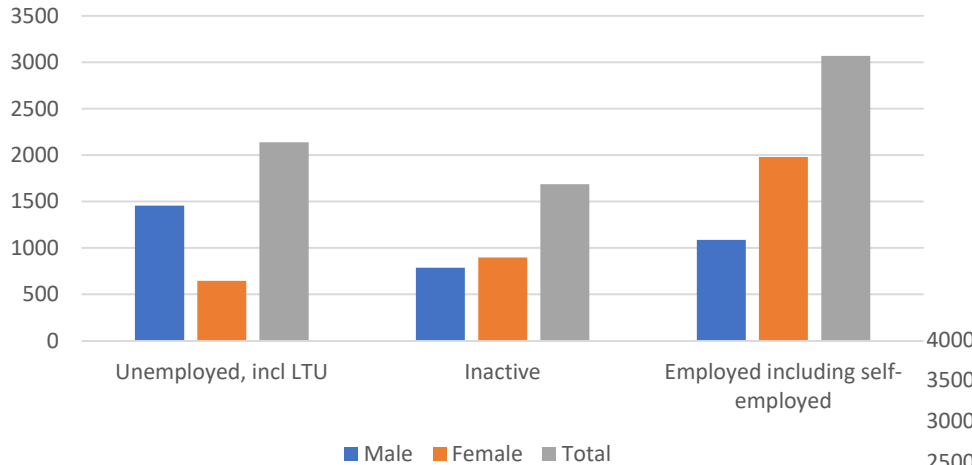


Implementation Progress – PA 2

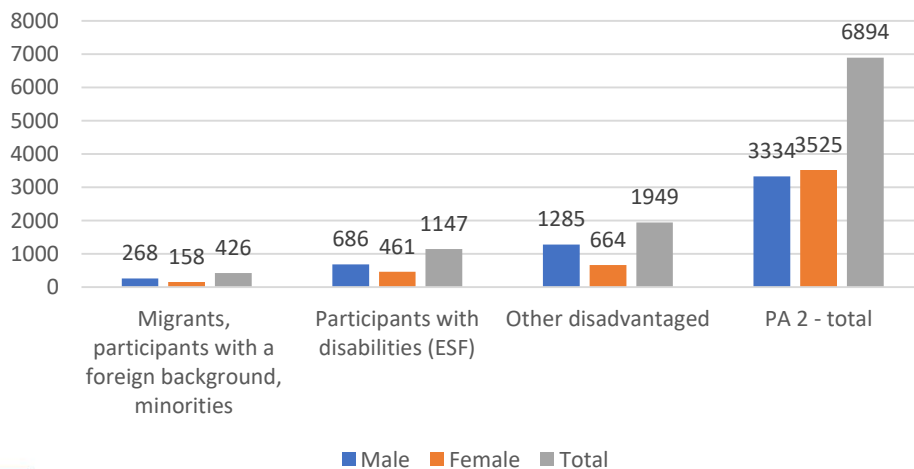


Participants overview – PA 2

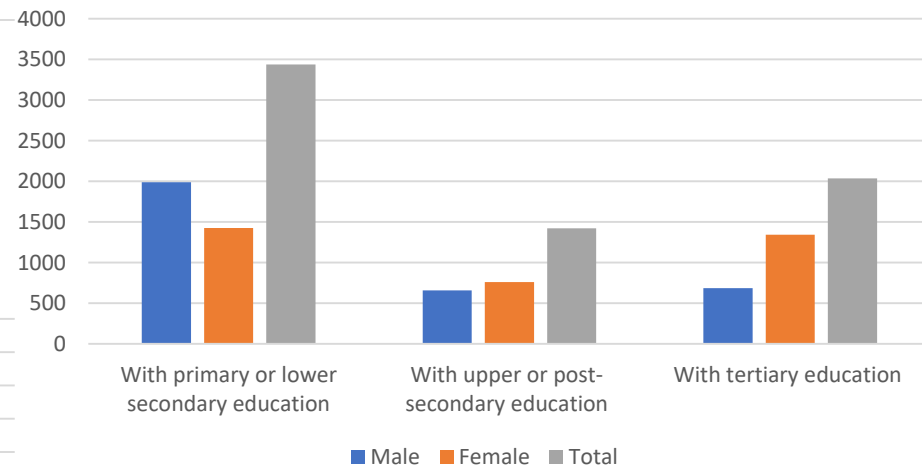
Employment status - PA 2



No. of vulnerable groups supported - PA 2



Educational level - PA 2



Output Indicators for PA 2 (IP9i)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
O6 Persons participating in training/support measures	8,500	5,427	4,721	2,659	2,059	3
O7 Persons supported towards the deinstitutionalisation through the provision of skills and support services	30	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
O8 Research activities and campaigns focusing on vulnerable groups	6	12	8	n/a	n/a	n/a
O9 Persons participating in up-skilling and re-training including partners	1,200	2,111	1,003	248	755	0

Result Indicators for PA 2 (IP9i)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R10 Persons equipped with skills to empower them to move towards deinstitutionalisation	50%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R11 Improved and introduced support programmes targeting vulnerable groups	6	17	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
R7 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	85%	88%	83%	82%	83%	0%
R8 Participants in employment/further study six months after leaving	45%	37%	14%	17%	9%	0%
R9 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	50%	59%	44%	43%	46%	67%

Result Indicators for PA 2 (IP9i)

excluding ongoing

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R10 Persons equipped with skills to empower them to move towards deinstitutionalisation	50%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R11 Improved and introduced support programmes targeting vulnerable groups	6	17	1	n/a	n/a	n/a
R7 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	85%	88%	85%	82%	86%	0%
R8 Participants in employment/further study six months after leaving	45%	37%	17%	21%	12%	0%
R9 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	50%	59%	54%	51%	57%	100%

Output Indicators for PA 2 (IP9iv)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
O10 Information activities relating to healthier lifestyles as well as health and safety at work	3	5	-	-	-	-
O5 Persons participating in up-skilling and re-training programmes	300	6,804	1,170	416	746	8

Result Indicators for PA 2 (IP9iv)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R12 Increase in awareness in relation to healthier lifestyles and health and safety at work	50%	50%	-	-	-	-
R7 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	85%	85%	82%	79%	83%	88%

Result Indicators for PA 2 (IP9iv)

excluding ongoing

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	0
R12 Increase in awareness in relation to healthier lifestyles and health and safety at work	50%	50%	-	-	-	-
R7 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	85%	85%	100%	100%	100%	100%

PA 3 - Investing in people through Education, Training and Life Long Learning



Priority Axis 3 - Investing in people through Education, Training and Life Long Learning

Allocation	Investment Priority	Projects Approved incl. Scheme	Total Commitment
EUR47.4M	IP10i - Reducing and preventing ESL; promoting equal access to good quality education	1	EUR12M
	IP10ii – Better access to tertiary education, increasing participation and attainment levels	3	EUR16.6M
	IP10iii – Lifelong learning for all age groups and promoting flexible learning pathways	3	EUR10.1M
	IP10iv – Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems and strengthening vocational education and training systems and their quality	2	EUR7.1M
	Total		9

One Tablet Per Child (OTPC) (IP10i)

- OTPC goes beyond tablet distribution, giving access to educators to create more innovative and creative lessons
- In scholastic year 2018/2019 the last of the EU funded tablet distribution to year 4 students was carried out; and in 2019/2020 scholastic year as part of government's commitment the 4th round of year 4 students were provided with tablets.
- In 2019, the Maltese Digitised Reading Scheme was launched through which students are encouraged to read at their own pace and improve their literacy skills. Two hundred and sixty books (260) have been chosen and customised by the National Literacy Agency.
- New activities included in the project tackling further ESL needs.

Development of Training Programmes at MQF level 7(IP10ii)

MCAST is further enhancing the attractiveness of the vocational graduate programmes by ***giving the possibility to students to continue their vocational education journey at MQF Level 7***. Through this project, the quality of tertiary education programmes will continue to improve, resulting in more individuals pursuing a course at this level.

In April 2019, 6 Master Programmes were launched:

- Environmental Engineering
- High Performance Building
- Water Resource Management
- Product Design
- Mechatronic
- Exercise and Sports Science

155 persons (30% women) have started one of the 8 masters courses.

ENDEAVOUR Scholarships Scheme (IP10ii)

Provides financial assistance to those that want to pursue their studies at MQF level 7 and 8.

- To date **775 persons (48% women)** were awarded a grant (3% of which at Lvl8) of which **601 concluded their studies**. Results of the 5th call were published in Q1 2020.
- Through this project, Malta managed to reach its 33% milestone earlier than envisaged; The target was to reach this milestone by 2020.

Further Studies Made Affordable (FSMA)

**ESF Financial Instrument
(IP10ii)**

Overview

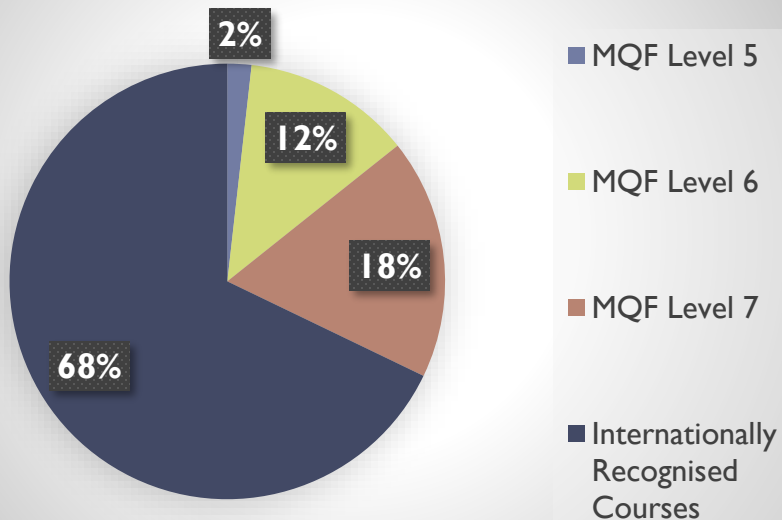
- ▶ Established on 21st May 2019 to support the development of human capital and meet the financing needs of students seeking to pursue a study programme for accredited courses in MQF levels 5, 6, 7 and 8, as well as other internationally-recognised certificates.
- ▶ Provides a guarantee for a portfolio of new loans to eligible students with zero interest during a set moratorium period (up to a maximum of 5 years), for activities related to tuition fees, accommodation costs, subsistence expenses and other expenses to further their studies in Malta and abroad.
- ▶ **€2M** in ESF funds have been allocated to this instrument to create a Maximum Portfolio Volume (MPV) of loans amounting to **€5.5M**.
- ▶ As at 31/12/2019, **€2.7M** (out of **€5.5M** target) have been committed to **56 students (of which 10 females)**; which means an commitment rate of **circa 54% in 3 months**.
- ▶ **€145k** have been disbursed by end of year, with the average loan size being of ca **€49k**.

Studies supported

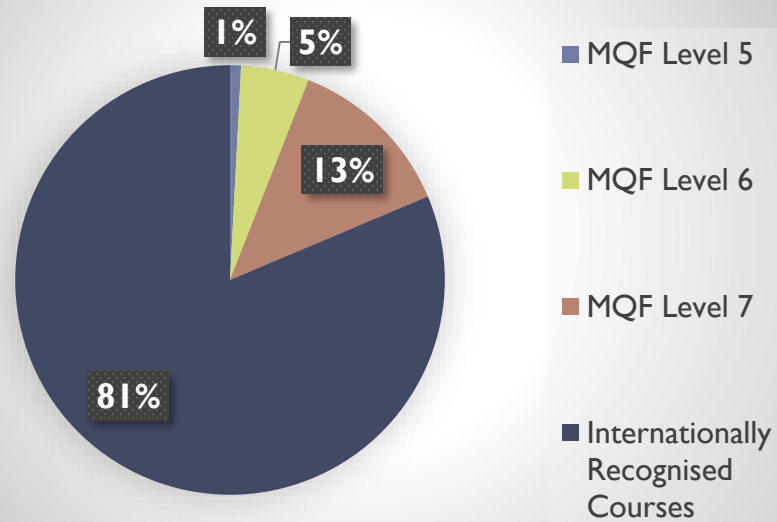
Diversification by MQF level

- ▶ Financing provided for **18 different courses**

By Number of Students



Committed Amount



Preliminary assessment of pilot project

- ▶ The Further Studies Made Affordable had a very positive start, showing that local students are increasingly open to different forms of financial assistance, and have welcomed the beneficial loan conditions that the ESF guarantee is providing.
- ▶ The Financial Intermediary is expected to create the portfolio by end 2020.

eCommerce Training Programme (IP10iii)

- 7 intakes were rolled out
- 107 participants (of which 50 women) started training out of which 50 (of which 22 women) participants completed to-date.
- Participants feel that the training programme will help them with their current job and business ventures.
- Participants stated that the course provided them with valuable knowledge and insights that they felt were lacking in order to move forward with their eCommerce project.
- Top students visited London expo in 2019 where the newest technologies in eCommerce are displayed. Besides, they also had the chance to interact with market-leading solution providers
- Collaboration with partners in 2019 involved in the facilitation in the promotion of the training opportunity using their communication channels.

Investing in Skills (IP10iii)

Investing in Skills is intended to promote access to the training of persons actively participating in the Maltese labour market, with a view to **increasing productivity and enhancing their adaptability**.

To date a total of **2,310 applications** were received (out of which 51% received in 2019). Partners of scheme assisted to provide information through their channels.

1,513 grants were signed amounting to around **€2.8M**. Over 300 unique undertakings have benefitted, 86% of these being SMEs

68% of courses attended were in (i) basic skills or (ii) management, administration, hr, finance or audit. **Over 6,000** (47% women, and 14% vulnerable group) persons have benefited from this training opportunity some of which more than once.

Enhancing Vocational Excellence Through Enhanced Work Based Learning (IP10iv)

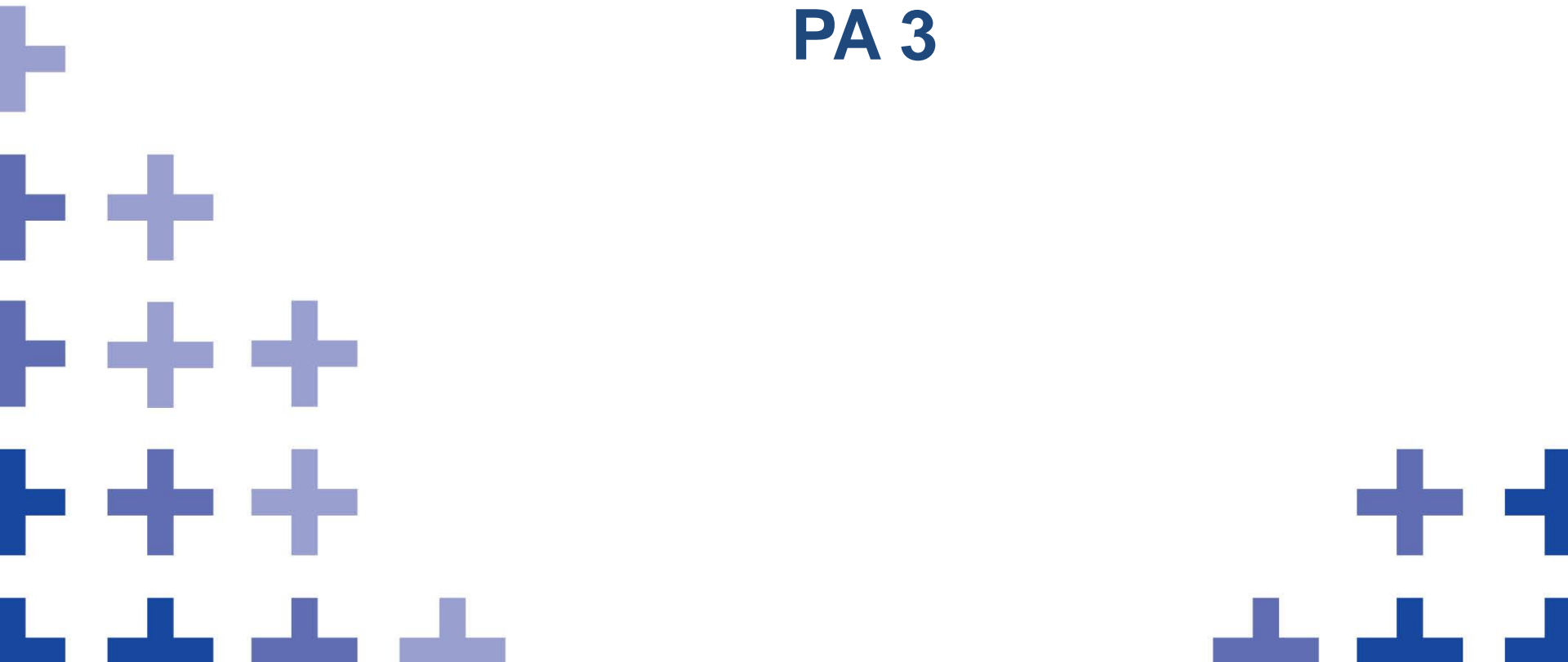
Information sessions with industry stakeholders held in 2019

Research activities in progress:

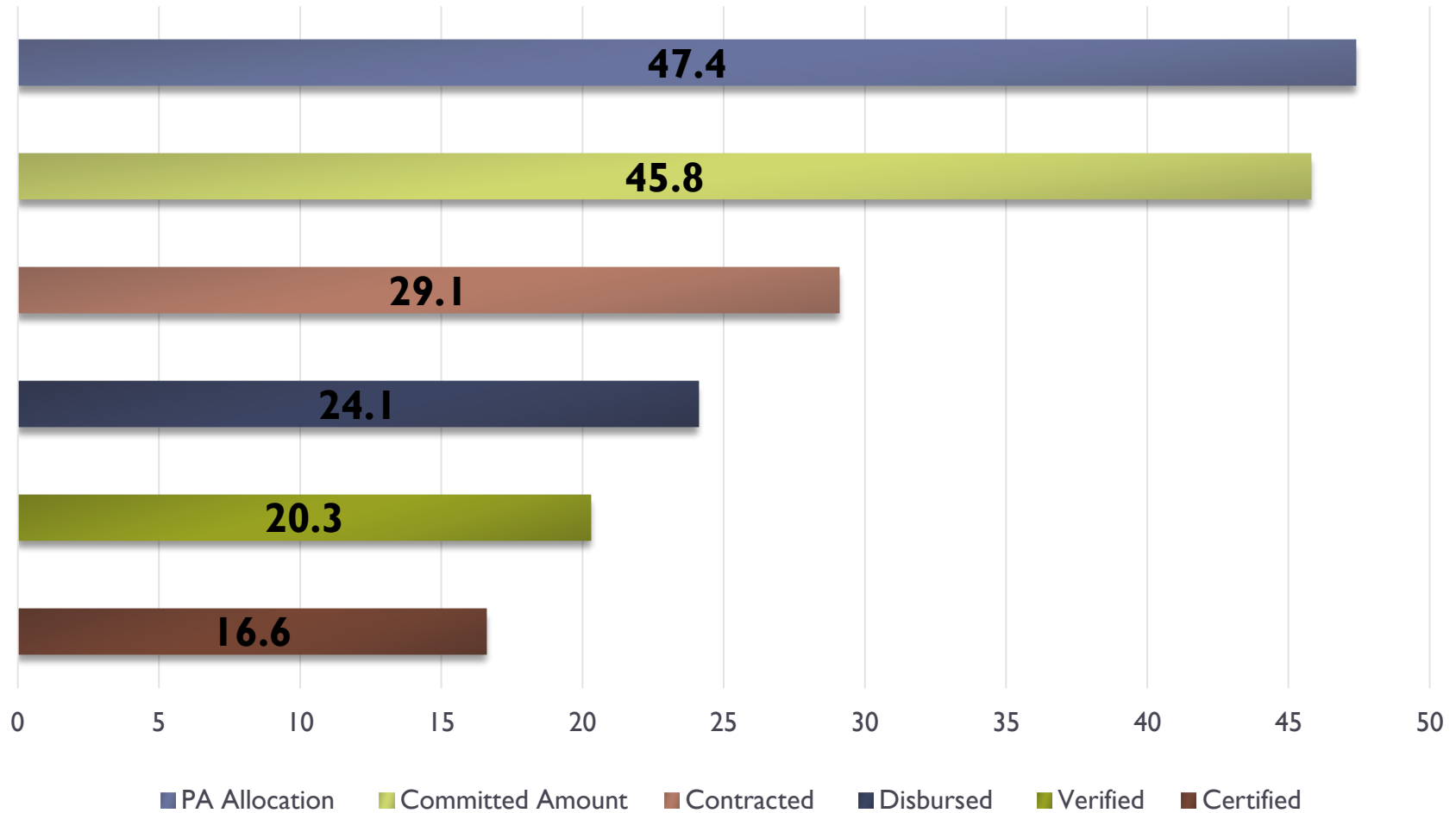
- ▶ **Creation of a comprehensive Competency Framework** – tied to various job profiles with a view to strengthen mechanisms to assess students skills gap for a particular job, and creating the environment within the teaching programme incl emulative centres/apprenticeship where these can be completed
- ▶ **Mentoring Training report** – compendium of good practices and interventions of actual hands-on training for practitioners reviewing what is being offered and pedagogical approaches from EU and non EU countries; incl summary of published manuals highlighting innovative factors and good practices.

Moreover, preliminary ground work was in progress in relation to the 6 **emulative centres** to be set up.

Financial and Physical Progress PA 3

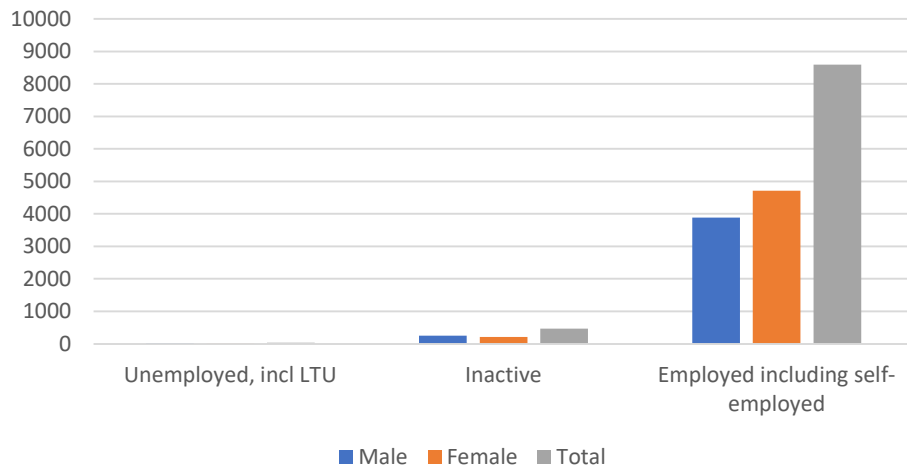


Implementation Progress – PA 3

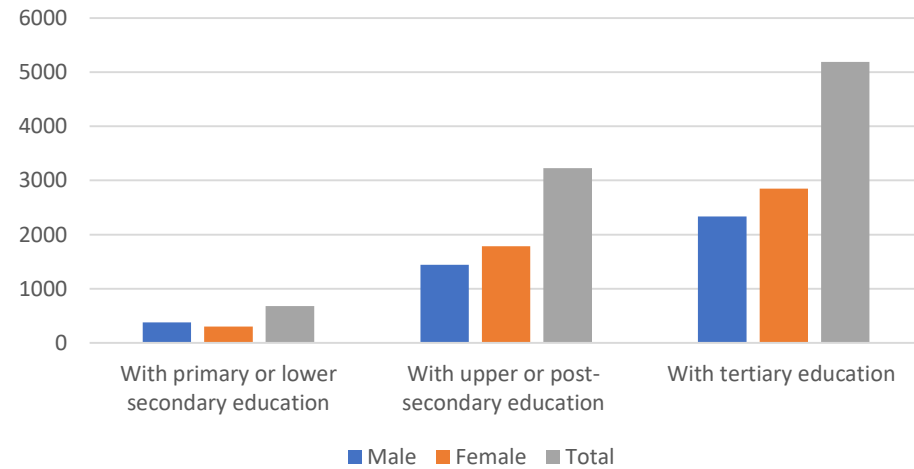


Participants overview – PA 3

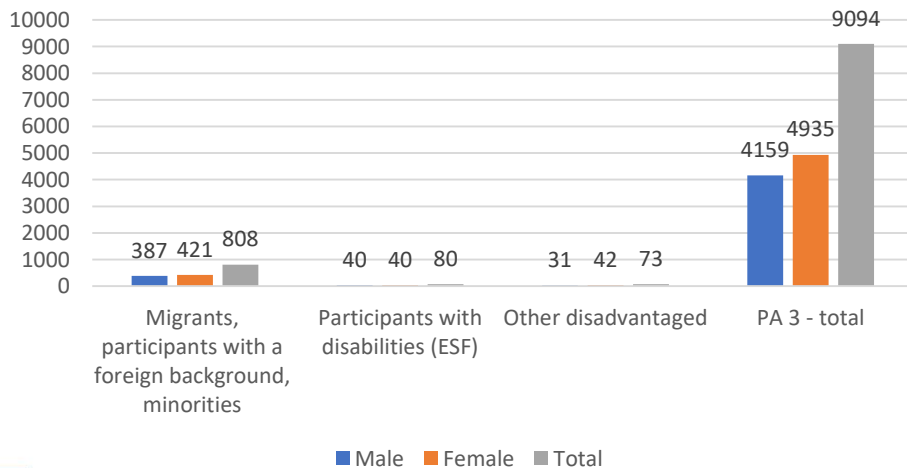
Employment status - PA 3



Educational level - PA 3



No. of vulnerable groups supported - PA 3



Output Indicators for PA 3 (IP10i)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
O11 The provision of digital technologies to students	12,000	11,400	11,479	5,797	5,682	0
O5 Persons participating in up-skilling and re-training programmes	4,500	1,772	1,754	242	1,510	2
O12 Pupils/students supported through monitoring and preventive early school leaving measures	200	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 3 (IP10i)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R13 Teaching time using digital technologies	50%	50%	21%*	n/a	n/a	n/a
R 7 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	87%	96%	98%	98%	98%	100%
R14 Improved pupils/student performance upon receiving support	40%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

*Work in progress

Result Indicators for PA 3 (IP10i)

excluding ongoing

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R13 Teaching time using digital technologies	50%	50%	21%*	n/a	n/a	n/a
R 7 Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	87%	96%	98%	98%	98%	100%
R14 Improved pupils/student performance upon receiving support	40%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

*Work in progress

Output Indicators for PA 3 (IP10ii)



EU funds
for Malta

2014
2020

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
O13. Persons participating in tertiary education	700	1,258	930	511	418	1
O14. Persons within tertiary education Institutions participating in up-skilling and re-training Measures	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 3 (IP10ii)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R9. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	85%	90%	65%	61%	69%	0
R7. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	87%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 3 (IP10ii)

excluding ongoing



EU funds
for Malta | 2014
2020

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R9. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	85%	90%	98%	98%	98%	0
R7. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in up-skilling and re-training programmes	87%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Output Indicators for PA 3 (IP10iii)



EU funds
for Malta

2014
2020

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
O15. Persons participating in second chance education programmes	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
O16. Number of Post Doctoral research and fellowships	10	10	15	7	8	0
O6. Persons participating in training/support Measures	6,000	6,200	6,395	3,395	2,999	1

Result Indicators for PA 3 (IP10iii)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	0
R15. Second chance participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	75%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R16. Annual average number of research hours as at 2020	17,200	17,200	22,483	10,811	11,672	n/a
R9. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	87%	87%	97%	97%	98%	100%

Result Indicators for PA 3 (IP10iii)

excluding ongoing

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
R15. Second chance participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	75%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R16. Annual average number of research hours as at 2020	17,200	17.200	22,483	10,811	11,672	n/a
R9. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	87%	87%	97%	97%	97%	100%

Output Indicators for PA 3 (IP10iv)



EU funds
for Malta

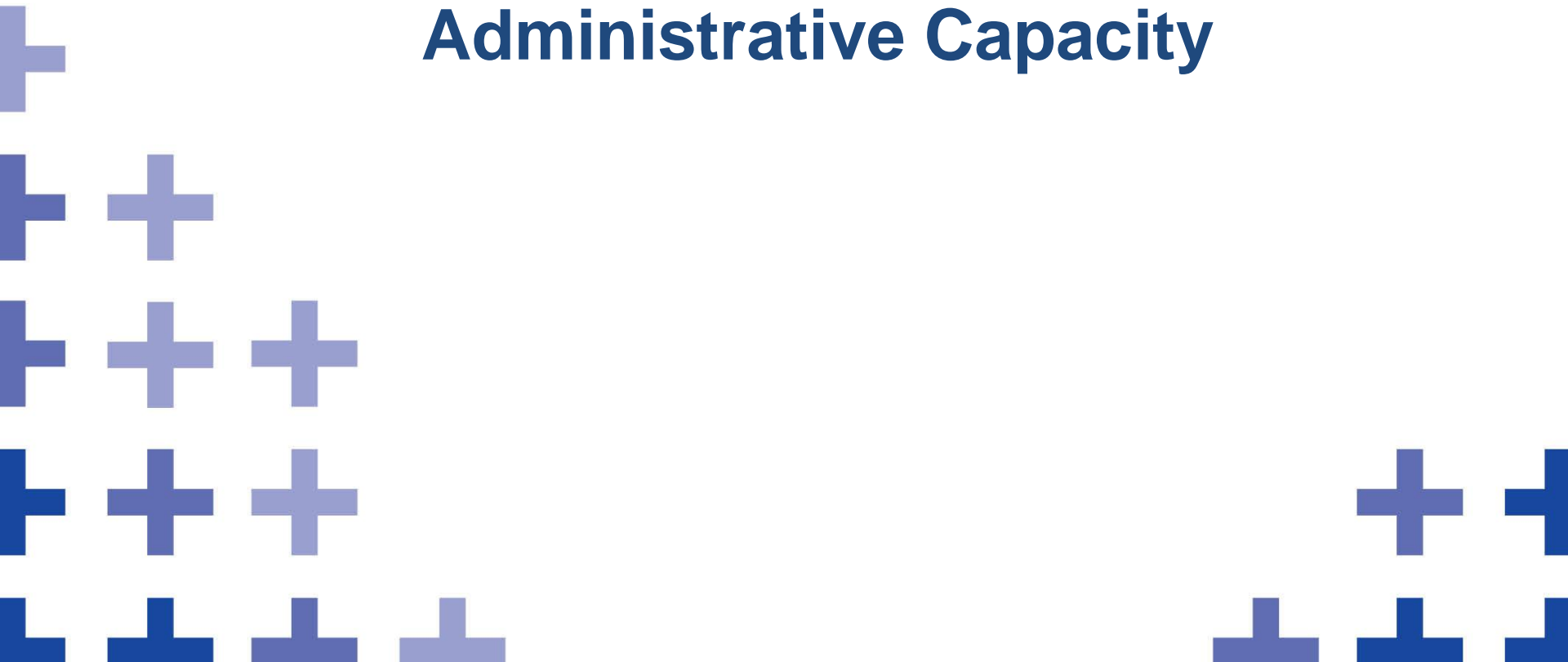
2014
2020

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
O6. Persons participating in training/support measures	1400	400	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
O5. Persons participating in up-skilling and re-training programmes	400	674	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 3 (IP10iv)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	0
R9. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	87%	87%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
R7. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving in re-training and up-skilling programmes	87%	89%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

PA 4 - Building the Institutional Administrative Capacity



Priority Axis 4 - Building the Institutional Administrative Capacity

Allocation	Investment Priority	Projects Approved incl. Schemes	Total Commitment
EUR11M	IP11i – Investment in institutional capacity; strengthening the role of public administration	12	EUR15.2M
	IP11ii – Capacity building for stakeholders involved in the delivery of education, employment and social policies	3	EUR0.4M
	Total	15	EUR15.6M

Towards a More Professional Workforce in the Public Administration (IP11i)

- ▶ By end of year 2019 all funds projected for the Academic Courses and International Events component were all allocated and contracted. This target was achieved due to the high demand from the Public Service employees to participate in training events/courses.
- ▶ Up to the end 2019 1,235 Public administration officers, out of which 59% are female, have been trained under this project :
 - ▶ **161** public officers have benefitted from an Academic Scholarship.
 - ▶ **283** public officers have been sponsored to attend an International event.
 - ▶ **3** participants have benefitted in Specialised Training in Medical.
 - ▶ **788** officers have participated in the Modular Training in Basic Accounts Training.
- ▶ In 2020 more activities are planned to take place including the continuation of Modular training, the launch of a second call for Specialised Training together with a call for Placements/Job shadowing.

Mystery Shopper (IP11i)

The **Mystery shopper exercise** carried out in 2019:

- ▶ **Tax and finance** - e.g. setting up of one-stop-shop for Tax payer services
- ▶ **Education and Employment** – e.g. harmonisation of the information found across different education websites.
- ▶ **Social Inclusion and social welfare** – e.g. Extension of opening hours at Housing Authority
- ▶ **Ministry for Gozo** – e.g. improvement of the service delivery of the Cittadella Visitors' Centre through a number of recommendations.



Public Service Quality Award was introduced in 2019, which serves as an incentive for department/entities to improve their service in order to reach the required criteria for the achievement of the Award.

A total of **581 recommendations** have been reported in 2019, out of which **53% have been** resolved, the remaining recommendations being at various stages of implementation.

A total of **601 recommendations** have been resolved to date, **of which 319 have been resolved in 2019.**

SpatialTRAIN Scholarship Scheme (IP11i)

Up to end 2019 **87 persons (31% women)** participated in training courses and scholarships

Complemented with various dissemination activities:

- most effective dissemination activities were the Info Sessions to target all project partners, as well as presentations and meetings to individual project partners, when requested to do so.
- Another call for L4 and L5 will be issued through the project in 2020.

Feasibility study for setting up of a National Spatial Intelligence Institute (NaSpl) also started in 2019, expected to be concluded in 2020.

	Target Number	Number of participants (as at end 2019; excluding dropouts)
MQF L4	100	12
MQF L5	40	35
MQF L6	20	2
MQF L7	15	17

Mobile Public Services Take-up (IP11i)

- ▶ 1st research in 2018:
 - ▶ 77% of the Maltese population make use of a mobile device (smartphone/tablet). With 32% of those owning such mobile device make use of Mobile Government Services.
 - ▶ Health was rated as the most important type of Mobile Government Service and the most popular social media platform is Facebook.

- ▶ 2nd research in 2019:
 - ▶ 78.5% of the Maltese population own a mobile device
 - ▶ 38.4% of these use mobile government services.
 - ▶ The most popular social media platform is Facebook with Health rated as the most important type of Mobile Government Service among all age groups except for the youngest age group which considered Transport as the most important.

- ▶ Awareness campaigns continued in 2019, with higher traffic noticed on the relevant apps throughout such periods. Flagging importance that people need to be informed of such new services and mobile facilities which are growing throughout lifetime of project

- ▶ Training activities were concluded in 2019, whose aim was to raise awareness on such services with public employees, so as to continue strengthening this mode of government service delivery

Create 2020 – Investing in Cultural and Creative Capacity skills in Malta's public sector (IP11i)



EU funds | 2014
for Malta | 2020

- **Research activity** for the development of regional cultural development strategy including consultation nearing completion. 3 transversal themes were found common to all the regions of the Maltese islands which include the need to connect rural communities and smaller towns, to build capacity in cultural infrastructure and for cultural organisations to promote Malta at a European level and beyond.
- **46 were trained in cultural management** of which **16 Male** and **30 Women** which course targeted Intellectual Property Rights, Marketing for the Arts, Project Management, International Collaboration, Fundraising and Sponsorships, Cultural Entrepreneurship and Community Development.
- During 2019, **74 mobility grants** were awarded to participants who attended events on Arts and Culture and performing arts.

Engage: Enhancing Stakeholder Participation in Social Dialogue (IP11ii)

- ▶ Project led by MEUSAC, was nearing completion by end 2019, which trained circa 50 participants (42% women, 10% below 25 years of age, 2% with ISCED 1 or 2)
- ▶ Stakeholder engagement analysis identified which tools and methodologies should be used to ensure MEUSAC's services are in line with the needs of stakeholders.
- ▶ 3 training programmes: 'Project Management', 'Stakeholder Engagement' and 'Effective Communication' were offered to MEUSAC staff.
- ▶ MEUSAC carried out capacity building sessions further to the study and their internal training for civil society and social partners. This activity is still ongoing and expected to be completed in 2020.

Improving General Worker's Union Capacity for Better Social Dialogue (IP11ii)

- Project led by GWU, training over 70 persons (27% women, 6% below 25 years of age, and 28% with ISCED 1 or 2)

- Capacity building for Union representatives on the shop floor (URSF) and members in 'Industrial Relations' at MQF 3 and 'Management and Leadership Skills'. The participants in training ranged from various sectors such as:
 - ▶ Chemical and Energy;
 - ▶ Discipline Forces, Security and Law Enforcement Officers;
 - ▶ Food and Hospitality;
 - ▶ Government, Public Entities and Health;
 - ▶ Metal and Construction;
 - ▶ Professionals, Finances and Services;
 - ▶ Technology, Electronics and Communication;
 - ▶ Transport, Maritime and Aviation.

- In addition, 3 Job shadowing activities at ETUC were carried out in 2019 with GWU employees

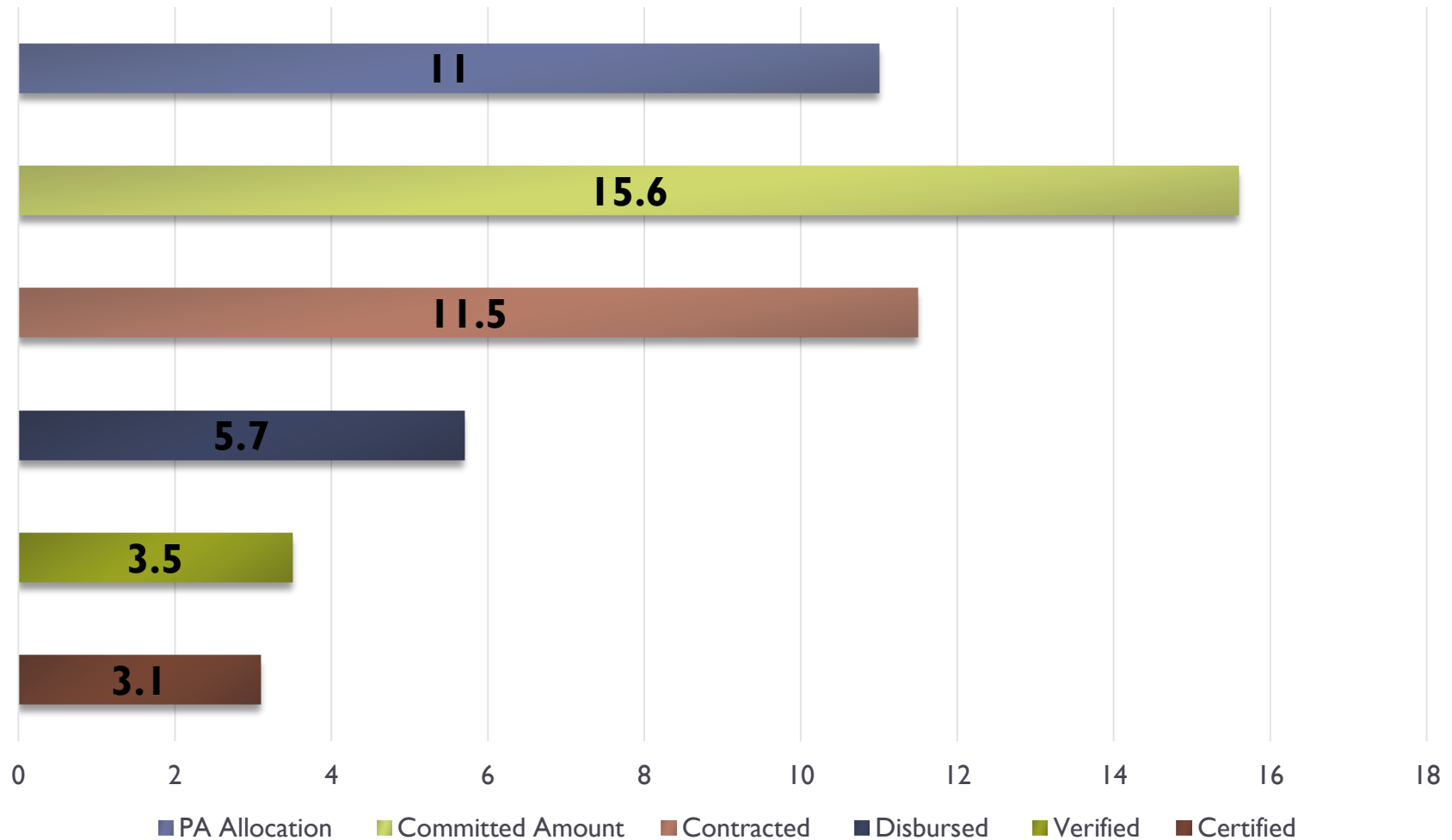
SMEs: Tuning the art of representation (STAR) (IP11ii)

- Project led by Malta Chamber of SMEs (formerly known GRTU), training 13 persons (38% women, 8% below 25 years of age, 23% with ISCED 1 or 2) including employees and executive members
- Capacity building carried out was in ‘HR in Public Relations’; this activity continued throughout 2019.
- Studies leading to the re-branding of the organisation now known as The Malta Chamber of SMEs consisted in:
 - **Qualitative Assessment** on the perception and knowledge of organisation as well as what would they expect and what services they would want to see
 - **Quantitative Assessment** through 600 interviews.
 - **Added value:** *Study gave valuable insights and showed great scope of upgrading the image of the organisation and developing services that are seen as ancillary to social dialogue which can help attract stakeholders more and help them see the relevance in being involved and participating. The study also revealed how communication and tools need to be adapted to be more in line with the expectations of their stakeholders.*

Financial and Physical Progress PA 4

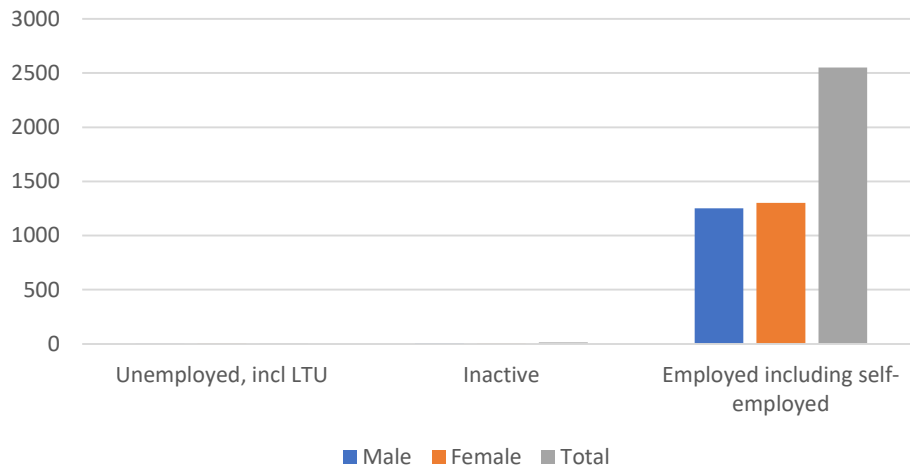


Implementation Progress – PA 4

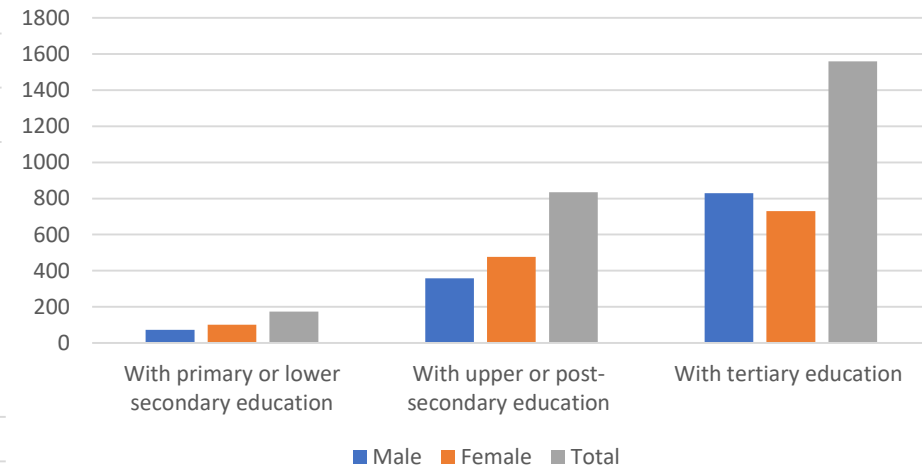


Participants overview – PA 4

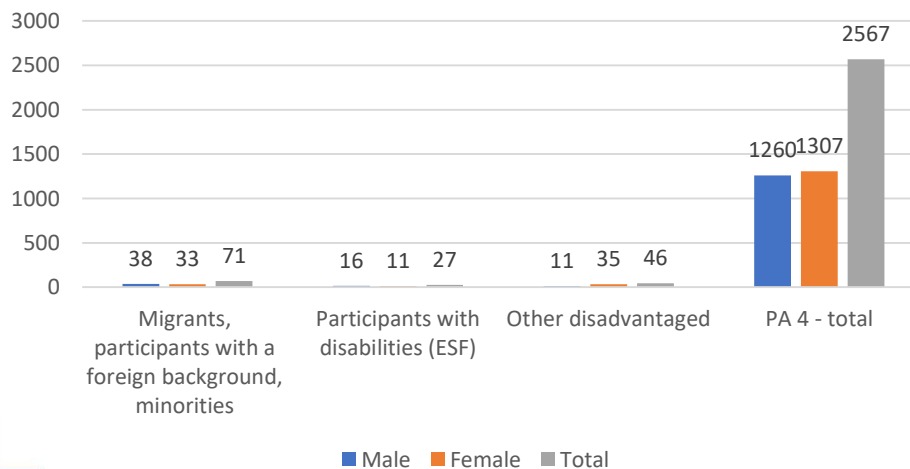
Employment status - PA 4



Educational level - PA 4



No. of vulnerable groups supported - PA 4



Output Indicators for PA 4 (IP11i)



EU funds
for Malta

2014
2020

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	O
CO22. No of projects targeting public administration or public services at national, regional or local level	3	11	11	n/a	n/a	n/a
O6. Persons participating in training/support measures	3,500	4,396	2,434	1,172	1,262	-
O17. Persons participating in training related to the judicial reform	500	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 4 (IP11i)

excluding ongoing

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	0
R17. Number of public bodies/departments with improved processes	13	103	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
R9. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	90%	90%	94%	94%	95%	0
R18. Participants gaining a qualification/certification in training related to the judicial reform	85%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Result Indicators for PA 4 (IP11i)

Indicator	Target Value	Committed	Actual			
			T	M	F	0
R17. Number of public bodies/departments with improved processes	13	103	2	n/a	n/a	n/a
R9. Participants gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	90%	95%	82%	81%	83%	0
R18. Participants gaining a qualification/certification in training related to the judicial reform	85%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

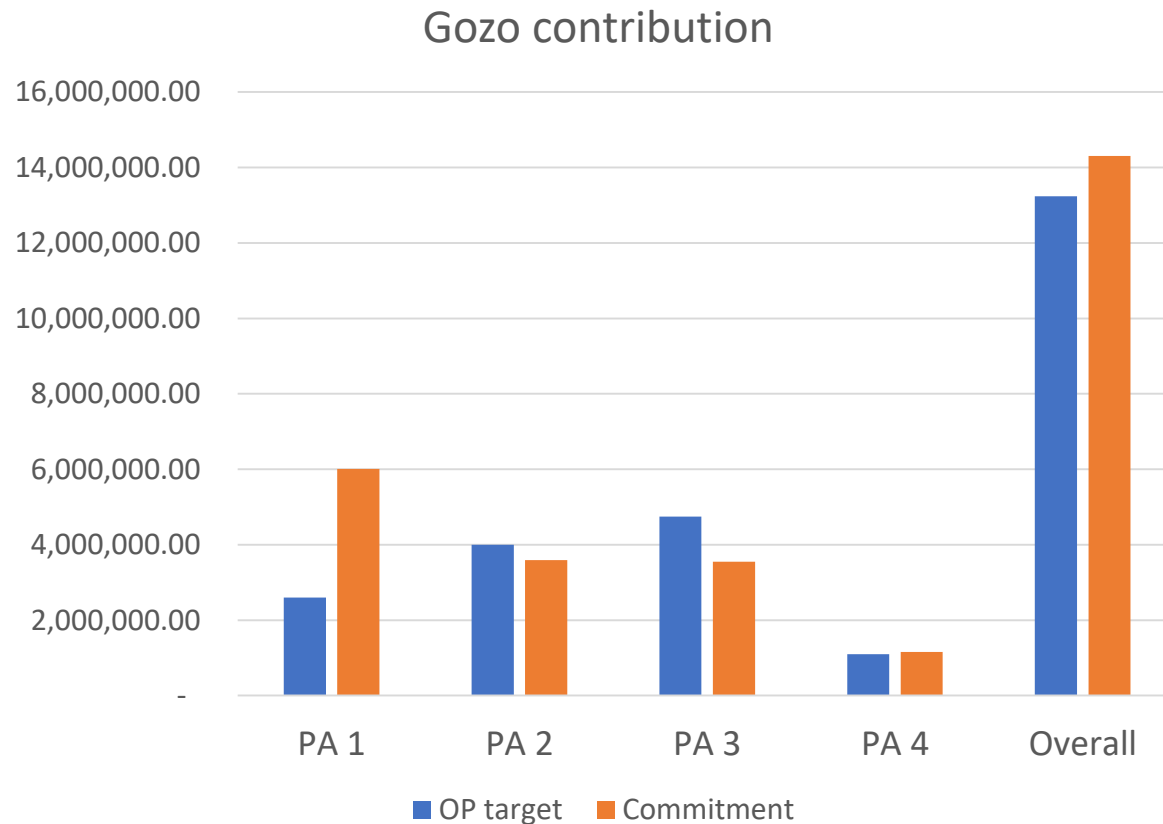
Output and Result Indicators for PA 4 (IP11ii)

Indicator	Target Value	Committ ed	Actual			
			T	M	F	0
O18. Participants within stakeholder organisations delivering ESF related policies	500	242	133	87	45	1
R19. Participants within stakeholder organisations delivering ESF related policies gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving	40%	95%	47%	53%	38%	0%
R19. Participants within stakeholder organisations delivering ESF related policies gaining a qualification/certification upon leaving (EXCLUDING ONGOING)			89%	92%	85%	0%

Territorial Earmarking



Territorial Earmarking (Gozo)



Overall OP target is 10% of Programme Allocation

Simplified Cost Options



Delegated Acts

- 7th amendment to Delegated Regulation 2015/2195 was published on the Official Journal on 7 May 2019 – covered **lump sums covering indirect costs under ESF** for Malta
- Submitted two Delegated Act applications covering scholarship rates at MQF Level 7 and updated the *Youth Guarantee 2.0* unit costs
- On 27th September 2019, the Commission adopted the 8th amendment to Delegated Regulation 2015/2195 which includes the unit costs for scholarships as well as the updated unit costs for Youth Guarantee.

Monitoring and Evaluation (2014-2020)



Monitoring of projects'/schemes

- Day-to-day monitoring of project implementation on the basis of commitments undertaken in the Preliminary Agreements and Grant Agreements signed between the MA and the Beneficiaries.
- MPSC meetings between the MA, Line Ministries and the Beneficiaries with the participation of relevant stakeholders to address issues related to procurement and progress in the implementation.
- Use of Structural Funds Database (SFD14-20) to monitor projects on an ongoing basis.
- MA Checks on the procurement and on-the-spot checks to verify progress of the implementation of the approved projects (129 procurement checks till end 2019 on mainstream projects; 250 eligibility checks on aid schemes; and 529 physical checks of which 125 physical checks were on aid schemes).
- Regular meetings with Jobsplus (IB) to monitor progress on Aid Schemes. IB checks carried out across both aid schemes amount to over 6000 visits at over 550 different employers

Key Processes Review on the implementation of the ERDF, CF and ESF OPs

- In 2019, an assessment of the key processes and practices involved in the funding process was undertaken in order to identify:
 - The main challenges that beneficiaries and stakeholders face in order to meet their obligations
 - The strengths and weaknesses within the process and their impact on the implementation of the programme
 - Any lessons learnt and recommendations for the next programming period
- All beneficiaries were invited to attend meetings with the evaluators or (in the case of NGOs and Local Councils) complete an online survey. A total of 43 beneficiaries participated, of which 25 being supported under OPI. Meetings with horizontal stakeholders were also undertaken.
- As at end of year, this review was still ongoing, with feedback from the Evaluation Helpdesk expected to be provided in the first half of 2020.

Key Processes Review on the implementation of the ERDF, CF and ESF OPs

- ▶ The responses of the beneficiaries can be grouped under 3 main headings, namely:
 - ▶ a) the need for simplification,
 - ▶ b) the challenge of insufficient capacity within the implementing organisations, and
 - ▶ c) the need to shift from a one size fits all approach particularly with regard to the application process and verification procedures.

Capacity issues were evident, which explains the demand for more simplification to streamline processes and procedures.

The primary recommendation from beneficiaries and stakeholders is for the Managing Authority to provide increased hands on guidance throughout the application and project implementation process, whilst at the same time ensuring the process is simplified.

Evaluation of the impact of EU Funded assistance on SMEs



EU funds
for Malta | 2014
2020

- Since Q4 2018, the MA has pushed for a common evaluation methodology to be applicable for all MS implementing the SMEi, in lieu of an evaluation carried out at EU level.
- An agreement was reached with the Evaluation Helpdesk at DG REGIO to collaborate for the drafting of this methodology, which as at Q1 2020, was at draft stage.
- On the basis of this draft methodology, the MA is in the process of drafting the ToRs, to evaluate the support given to SMEs through the SMEi, the grant schemes under OPI PA 3, both under TO3 '*Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises*', and indirectly through the Investing in Skills Scheme under OPII (TO10 '*Investing in education, training and vocational training for skills and lifelong learning*'). The MA is liaising with DG Regio's evaluation helpdesk to obtain further feedback and guidance.
- The evaluation shall focus on assessing the below criteria:
 - Effectiveness;
 - Impact, and
 - Efficiency.

Counterfactual Impact Evaluation on the Youth Guarantee 2.0

- ▶ In line with Article 56(1) of EU Regulation 1303/2013, the ECU is in the process of drafting ToRs for a counterfactual impact evaluation on the Youth Guarantee 2.0 (YG), funded by ESF under the current programming period.
- ▶ The evaluation is expected to provide an overview of the impact of the YG vis-à-vis a scenario where there was no YG intervention. This will be done by conducting a comparative analysis between eligible youth participating in YG and eligible youth that did not participate in YG initiatives.
- ▶ The evaluation will be based on 2 out of the 5 initiatives that the YG is comprised of; the NEET Activation Scheme and the SEC Preventive Classes.
- ▶ Both exercises will be based on the success criteria of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and impact.

Monitoring

- **Verification of Performance Framework milestones:**
 - In order to monitor progress and ensure that targets are met the MA carried out a thorough verification exercise of the Performance Framework milestones for 2018;
 - These monitoring checks are replicated on a twice yearly basis, with the MA focusing on checking that data collected is in line with definitions, ensuring that relevant supporting documentation is available; tracing and verifying data aggregation being reported by the IBs and BNs to the MA; and carrying out physical on the spot checks to verify achievement.
 - With regard to operations funded under OP11, a reperformance of the checks on participant uniqueness and eligibility of expenditure is also carried out on a number of projects selected on the basis of a sample that allows for an overview of all PAs and IPs.

- **Ongoing verification of Indicators**
 - During 2020 a Standard Operating Procedure outlining the procedures to be undertaken when verifying indicators was drafted and finalised in order to provide guidance on when and how to collect, record and verify data relating to indicators. As an annex to the SoP, a document was drafted to consolidate the guidance provided by the MA on indicators and outline which verification sources are to be used for each indicator.
 - Meetings were held with all OP11 beneficiaries including LMs, to provide guidance on the methodology to be used when collecting data relating to indicators and the verification sources to be maintained.

Login

Username

Password

In the past months, a number of enhancements have been made to the Structural Funds Database to enable greater monitoring efficiency.

SFD Enhancements

- ▶ Enhanced security feature to deactivate account dormant accounts
- ▶ Creation of Arachne modules at Operation and Procurement levels and the possibility to report to the European Commission Database
- ▶ Updates to the verification and audit module, indicators module and generated reports
- ▶ Creation of an SoE module to cater for Aid Schemes, and updates to the already existing module
- ▶ Updates in relation to Irregularities and Adjustments
- ▶ Enhancements related to the tasks of the Certifying Authority and the EU Payments Unit
- ▶ Enhancement to various reports and the Data on Participants module (ESF)

Communication Activities (2014-2020)



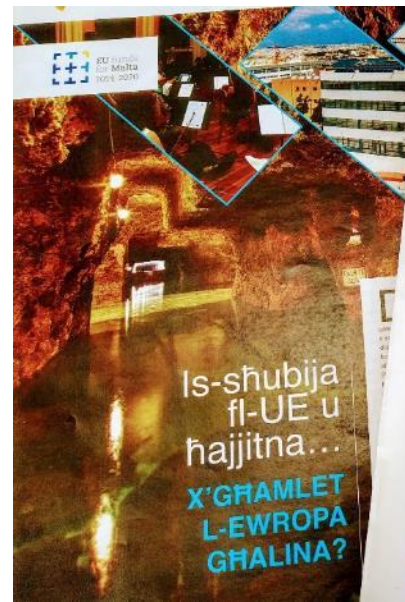
Promotion of ESF interventions

In 2019, ESF interventions were given great visibility on a national level through:

- Communication activities carried out by the MA
- National Campaigns aimed towards the general public
- Project Based activities targeted towards a more specific cohort.


Communication Activities in 2019

- As reported in November 2019, a number of activities were organised to raise awareness on how EU funds are utilised to improve the citizen's well-being:
 - Citizens Fair
 - European Week of Regions
 - Open Day Event
 - Newspaper features
 - Social Media
- 2 officers from the Communications Unit participated in 2 INFORM/INIO network meetings held in May in Sicily and in November in Ghent. In addition a number of webinars were held in 2019 in preparation of the 2020 #Euinmyregion campaign.



Social media


Investing In Your Future
 Published by Nathalie Schembri
 February 11 at 11:12 AM · 🌐

Thank you Lovin Malta for this feature on the #INVEST project


These brand-new Vocational Education and Training #labs were part-financed by the #ERDF and boy, are we glad that our students are having... See More

'I Can Express Myself The Way I Want': My Journey Is The National Educational Project Changing Maltese Students Life




 MINISTRY FOR EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT
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'I Can Express Myself The Way I Want': My Journey Is The National Educational Project Changing Maltese Students Life

Investing In Your Future and 6 others · 2 Shares ·  Like ·  Comment ·  Share
 191 People Reached ·  Boost Unavailable



Investing In Your Future
 Published by Nathalie Schembri · February 3 · 🌐

This is project ESF 02.040 – The VASTE Programme. Jobplus, through the VASTE Programme, has developed a holistic and innovative concept to facilitate the employment and reintegration of disabled persons and vulnerable individuals, by creating an extensive series of employability-enhancing training, work related experiences and support development options aimed at different employment channels.
 #aufundsmalta #europeansocialfund #investinyourfuture

TIMESOFMALTA.COM
Persons with disability job coaching session
 Jobs Plus held an information session for employers on the VASTE project...



- The MA has increased its presence on social media and also made use of a small allocation of funds made available by the Commission.
- The IYF page has a total of 1,672;
- Targeted, attractive and boosted posts have ensured outreach and engagement that however goes far beyond the number of page followers
- For 2020 the Commission has made available a budget of €1,000 to be used only for promoting social media posts. The MA intends to use the budget to continue consolidating its social media presence
- Since the beginning of 2020, through an agreement with the European Commission - we started sharing various videos of project success stories from other Member States. Videos of our projects are in turn shared on the social media pages of other MS.

Investing In Your Future
 Published by Nathalie Schembri · February 11 at 11:12 AM · 🌐

This is project ERDF 05.103. Conserving, protecting and promoting archaeological cultural heritage.
 #aufundsmalta #europeansocialfund #investinyourfuture



TIMESOFMALTA.COM
18 paintings restored in the Maria Church - TVM House
 Archaeological site of the church that is intertwined with history...

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Investing In Your Future
 Published by Nathalie Schembri · February 11 at 11:12 AM · 🌐

Employment of persons with disability and vulnerable individuals. For more information visit: www.jobplus.gov.mt or call 8777.
 #aufundsmalta #europeansocialfund #investinyourfuture



TIMESOFMALTA.COM
EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY & VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS

Financial Support · Corporate Solutions · Job Coaching / Mentoring · Vaste · Work Exposure

778 · www.timesofmalta.com

Investing In Your Future
 Published by Nathalie Schembri · January 11 · 🌐

Take part in the European Youth Event in Strasbourg on 29-30 May and help shape the future of Europe with other young Europeans.
 Every two years, thousands of young Europeans gather in Strasbourg for the YEYE to share their ideas about the future of Europe.
 For more information and to register: www.eyy2020.eu · See More



European Youth Event (EYE2020): The Future is Now ·  View page
 European Youth Event (EYE2020): The Future is Now ·  View page

Communication Activities by Beneficiaries

EU funds for Malta | 2014-2020



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All about the Jobsplus
Investing in Skills Scheme



Your chance to train your team and get funded
Investing in Skills - Jobsplus



Communication Activities by Beneficiaries (cont)

EU funds for Malta 2014-2020

PROJECT PART FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

the VASTE programme

TAHRIĠ, XOGHOL u SAPPORIT
għal min hu l-izjed fil-bżonn

1771

Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity
Parliamentary Secretariat
for European Funds and Social Dialogue

Operational Programme for European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020
"Investing in human capital to create more opportunities and promote the well-being of society"
Project part-financed by the European Social Fund
Co-financing rate: 80% European Union, 20% National funds

GOVERNMENT SERVICES ON YOUR MOBILE

EU funds for Malta 2014-2020

GEMMA

MINISTRY FOR THE FAMILY, CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND SOCIAL SOLIDARITY
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT FOR EUROPEAN FUNDS AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE

Self employed?

Make sure you pay your social security contribution in full. It is not a tax.

Reducing your earnings to pay a lower contribution exposes you to a lower pension when you retire.

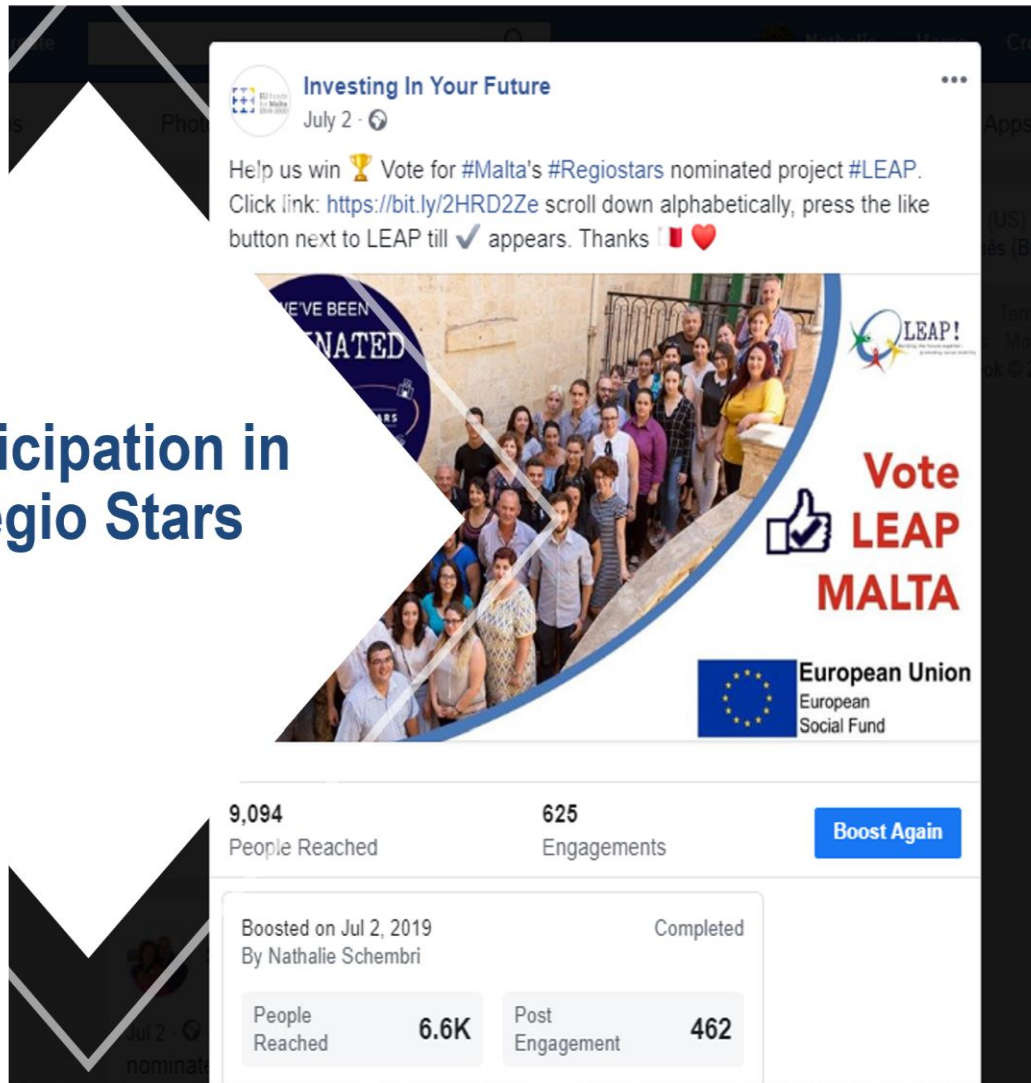


www.gemma.gov.mt

KNOW. PLAN. ACT.

Operational Programme for European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020
"Investing in human capital to create more opportunities and promote the well-being of society"
Project part-financed by the European Social Fund
Co-financing rate: 80% European Union, 20% National funds

Participation in Regio Stars



Investing In Your Future
 July 2 · 🌐

Help us win 🏆 Vote for #Malta's #Regiostars nominated project #LEAP.
 Click link: <https://bit.ly/2HRD2Ze> scroll down alphabetically, press the like button next to LEAP till ✓ appears. Thanks 🇲🇹 ❤️

Vote LEAP MALTA

European Union
 European Social Fund

9,094 People Reached **625** Engagements **Boost Again**

Boosted on Jul 2, 2019 By Nathalie Schembri Completed

People Reached	6.6K	Post Engagement	462
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The LEAP project's main aim was to combat social exclusion and poverty through employment, capacity building, social integration and social mobility.

This is achieved through coordination and networking of social stakeholders to create initiatives and tap into resources to implement social interventions within the community.

LEAP's objective is to mentor vulnerable individuals/families empowering them to make the necessary changes to finally take the 'Leap' forward towards a better future.

An illustration showing a diverse group of people interacting with a large red banner that says '#EUinmyregion'. The banner is held up by several people, and others are using a smartphone to take a photo of it. The background is a mix of blue and yellow shapes, suggesting a community or public space.

#EUinmyregion

In view of the global outbreak of COVID-19, the communication plans of the Managing Authority for 2020 have to be adapted:

Activities planned for 2020

- Instead of participating in the Citizen's fair that had to be held on the 8th May, the MA will increase its presence on social media, and will be working on increased exposure also through television and radio outreach of video testimonials and info-videos.
- The actions planned as part of the #EUinmyregion Campaign 2020, as listed below will be postponed to 2021:
 - Activities with school children – A number of sites that are of interest to children are being selected and school visits shall be organised in different regions of Malta and Gozo
 - A roaming photographic exhibition will be set up in the summer months in prominent squares or open spaces in main towns from the different regions in Malta and Gozo.

Capacity Building activities (2014-2020)



Training provided by the MA in 2019

- Structural Funds Database (ongoing basis) with sessions held in March, May and November for Project Leaders and other officers from Beneficiary Organisations. In total 50 officers were trained, also in the presence of PPCD officers who provided programme specific guidance as needed.
- Training on the Risk Analysis Tool - Arachne held in February 2019. The training was delivered to staff from PPCD, MSD, FPD and MITA and highlighted how the Arachne tool can be used to help in combating fraud (19 officers);
- Training on Grant Agreement held in March to MA's officers (39 officers);
- Training on Public Procurement Regulations given to PPCD officers, Line Ministries, NGOs, Local Councils in February, May and June. A total of 98 officers were trained;



Training provided by the MA in 2019 (2)

- Training on Project Implementation and Monitoring targeting NGOs and Local Councils in July (8 representatives of NGOs attended);
- Training on Common Errors in Public Procurement and Determining Financial Corrections for Non-Compliance with EU Regulations targeting the MA, Line Ministries, NGOs, Local Councils held in July, September, October and December. A total of 233 officers were trained;
- Training on Value Added Tax to PPCD officers in November. A total of 56 officers were trained.



Ongoing and Upcoming Training for 2020

- Structural Funds Database
- Simplified Cost Options
- Induction Training to all beneficiaries and other officers involved in the EU funding process
- Cost-Benefit Analysis

Audits



Status update - Audits

Accounting Year: 1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019

Audit Period: 1 July 2019 – 29 February 2020

System Audits

MA system audit on KR1 to KR8

CA system audit on KR 9 to KR 13

Treasury system audit

Information system security audit on SFD 2014-2020

Jobsplus system audit on KR 7

IT audit on the Electronic Public Procurement System

Results:

Observations were not systematic in nature and do not have a negative impact on the management and control system

Audits on Operations

During the course of the 2019 – 2020 accounting year, audits was carried out by the Audit Authority on FEAD, one Aid Scheme and eight projects:

ESF01.001 – Training for Employment;

ESF02.063 – Knowledge, training, Communication, and support measures in support of vulnerable groups;

ESF02.048 – The VASTE Programme;

ESF03.009 - Reach High Scholars Programme Post – Doctoral Grants;

ESF03.015 – Endeavour Scholarship Scheme;

ESF03.059 – One Tablet Per Child;

ESF04.086 – Engage: Enhancing Stakeholder Participation in Social Dialogue;

ESF04.094 – Promoting skills development in Public Administration.

ESF01.S1 – Access to Employment, 23 operations whose grant has been financed under the Aid scheme were audited.

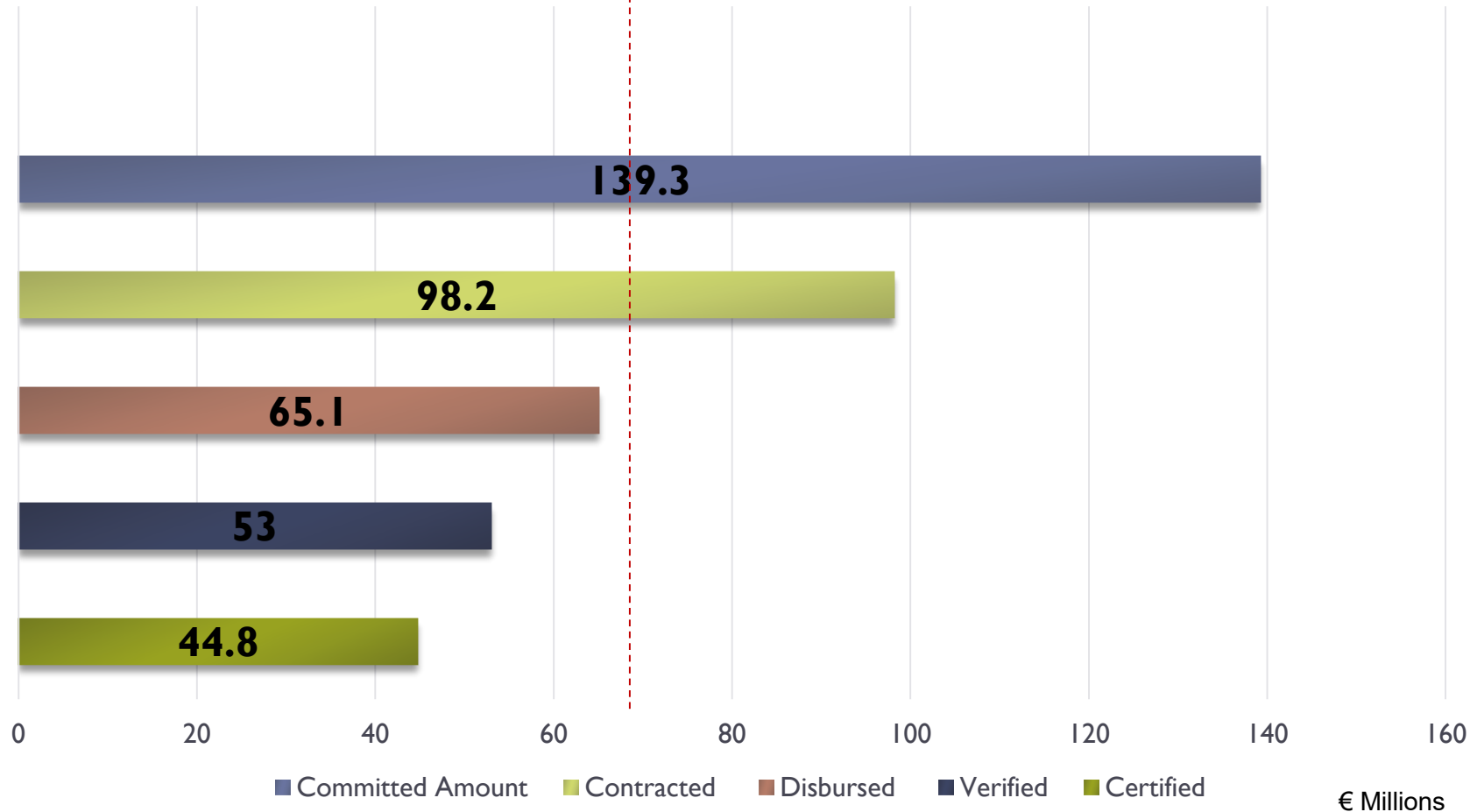
Current update

All audits were closed in Quarter 1 2020 with the Audit Authority accepting all Contradictory Procedure replies submitted by the MA prior to the closure of accounts 2018 – 2019;

DG EMPL will be conducting a review of the work of the AA.

N+3 target for 2020 vs Implementation Progress

ESF N+3 Target €68.9M



Concluding Remarks

- Significant progress has been achieved on the contracted and implementation on the ground across all PAs
- The challenge now is in relation to the evaluation of the implementation and effective impact on the ground
- Monitoring of the project execution at this stage is critical to ensure that we reap the benefits of the implementation and ensuring that the expected results are achieved.
- Efforts are required by all stakeholders to ensure the achievement of the N+3 targets through timely verification and certification of expenditure.
- Cooperation needed from all stakeholders for the upcoming audits on operations.
- An OP change to remove those indicators which no projects are contributing to.
- Monitor closely in cooperation with the beneficiaries, IB and stakeholders the impact and effects of COVID-19 on the programme itself.

Contact Details

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Santa Venera

Tel: + 356 22001142

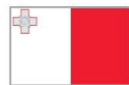
Fax: + 356 22001141

Email: info.eufunds@gov.mt

Website: www.eufunds.gov.mt



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