

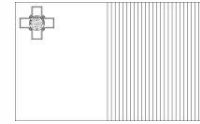
6th Monitoring Committee

**The EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM
and
The NORWEGIAN FINANCIAL MECHANISM**

2009–2014

National Focal Point – Malta

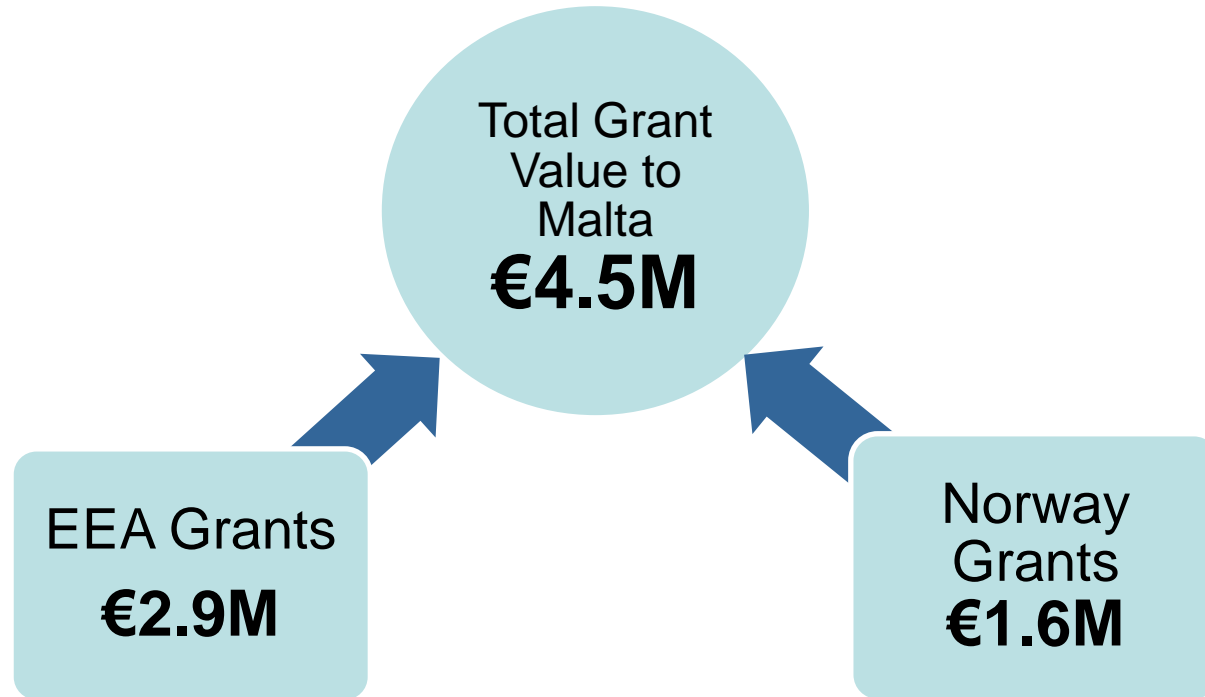
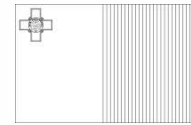
20 January 2017



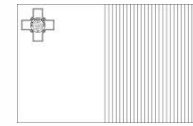
Overall Objectives - EEA and Norway Grants 2009-2014

**To reduce economic and social disparities
with the European Economic Area**

**To strengthen bilateral relations between
Donor States and Beneficiary States**



Programme period: 5 December 2012 – 30 April 2017
Projects' eligibility deadline – 30 April 2017 (Extended in October 2015)



Pre-defined projects (EEA Grants)



EEA GRANTS
2009-14

Adaptation to Climate Change



EEA GRANTS
2009-14

Conservation and Revitalisation
of Cultural and Natural Heritage

Oil/HNS Spill Response Capacity Building for the Protection of Malta's Seas

Transport Malta

Total eligible costs: €520,238

Grant: €442,202

Donor Partner: The Norwegian Coastal Administration (Kystverket)

A new environment management system for the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum World Heritage Site

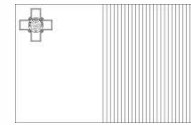
Heritage Malta

Total eligible costs: €1,065,000

Grant: €748,425

Pre-defined projects (EEA Grants)

– *cont'd*



Programme area no. 1



Priority sector:
Environmental Protection and Management

EEA GRANTS
2009-14

Integrated Marine and Inland
Water Management

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education
land water

Malta Water Conservation Awareness Centre

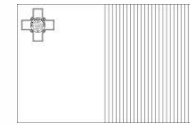
Energy and Water Agency OPM (Energy and Projects)+
PARK, ELC, Ekoskola and MITA

Total eligible costs:€1,508,340

Grant: €806,288

Pre-defined projects (EEA Grants)

– cont'd



Fund Operator: SOS Malta

Grant: €500,000



programme area no. 10

Priority sector:
Civil Society

EEA GRANTS 2009-14

The EEA Financial Mechanism shall contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area, and to strengthening the bilateral relations between the EEA EFTA States — Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway — and the Beneficiary States. The programme area shall contribute to these two overall objectives.

Funds for Non-Governmental Organisations

Objective

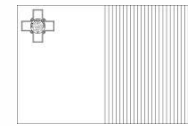
Strengthened civil society development and enhanced contribution to social justice, democracy and sustainable development

Expected outcomes

- Active citizenship fostered
- Increased involvement of NGOs in policy and decision-making processes with local, regional and national governments
- Cross-sectoral partnerships developed, particularly with government organisations at local, regional and/or national level

- Democratic values, including human rights, promoted
- Advocacy and watchdog role developed
- Developed networks and coalitions of NGOs working in partnership
- Strengthened capacity of NGOs and an enabling environment for the sector promoted
- Increased contribution to sustainable development achieved
- Provision of welfare and basic services to defined target groups increased
- Empowerment of vulnerable groups

Pre-defined projects (Norway Grants)



NORWAY
GRANTS
2009-14

Capacity-building and Institutional
Cooperation between Beneficiary State
and Norwegian Public Institutions, Local
and Regional Authorities

A Partnership for Creative Governance

Department for Local Government

Total eligible costs: €321,461

Grant: €273,680

Partners: Norwegian Association of Local
and Regional Authorities (KS), Council of
Europe, Local Councils Association



NORWAY
GRANTS
2009-14

Correctional Services, including
Non-custodial Sanctions

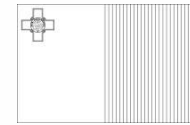
Renewing the Centre of Residential Restorative Services (CoRRS)

Ministry for Home Affairs and National
Security

Total eligible costs: €1,285,553

Grant: €1,092,720

Pre-defined projects (Norway Grants) – cont'd




Enhancing Social Dialogue and Labour Institutions

Department of Industrial and Employment Relations

Fund Operator: Innovation Norway

Grant: €16,000



Programme area no. 22

Priority sector:
Promotion of Decent Work and Tripartite Dialogue

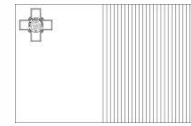
NORWAY GRANTS 2009-14

The Norwegian Financial Mechanism shall contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area, and to strengthening the bilateral relations between Norway and the Beneficiary States. The programme area shall contribute to these two overall objectives.

Objective
Decent work promoted and tripartite cooperation improved between employers' organisations, trade unions and public authorities in supporting equitable and sustainable economic and social development

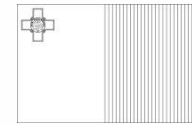
Expected outcomes

- Improved social dialogue and tripartite dialogue structures and practices
- Enhanced understanding of the benefits of decent work
- Enhanced access to employment and participation in the labour market
- Enhanced focus on the social dimension of workforce mobility
- Advancement of gender equality and non-discrimination in the workplace
- Improvement of work, family and private life balance
- Worker adaptability and lifelong learning opportunities improved



**Overview of the implementation of
the EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM
and
the NORWEGIAN FINANCIAL MECHANISM
2009 – 2014**

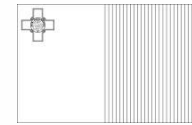
2016



January

- Fifth meeting of the Monitoring Committee**
- Submission of the combined Strategic and Annual Programme Reports, Technical Assistance Report and Audit Plan for 2017**
- Revision of the Monitoring Plan**
- Ongoing monitoring of projects through bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks**

Key activities – 2016 (*cont'd*)



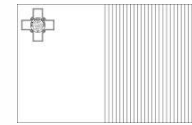
February

- Forecasts of likely payments from the Certifying Authority. to the FMO

March

- Interim Financial Report (IFR) for Technical Assistance and IFRs for EEA Programme and Norway Programme
- Ongoing monitoring of projects through bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks
- Communication Workshop organised by FMO in Bucharest

Key activities – 2016 (*cont'd*)



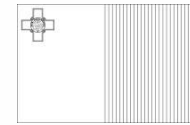
April

- Ongoing monitoring of projects through bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks

May

- Forecasts of likely payment applications
- Annual Meeting with Donors and FMO in Brussels
- Informal discussion about the potential priorities for the new EEA and Norway Grants 2014-21
- Launch Seminar of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-21 in Brussels
- Ongoing monitoring of projects through bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks

Key activities – 2016 (*cont'd*)



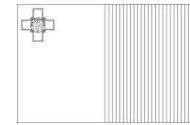
June

- Ongoing monitoring of projects
though bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks

July

- IFR for Technical Assistance and 2 IFRs for EEA Programme and Norway Programme
- Ongoing monitoring of projects though bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks

Key activities – 2016 (*cont'd*)



August

- Ongoing monitoring of projects through bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks

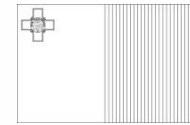
September

- Forecasts of likely payment applications

October

- Participation in the workshop for the NFP's in Brussels regarding the main changes of the blue book and the new regulation for EEA and Norway Grants 2014-21
- Participation of the CA in the workshop for Certifying Authorities organised by the FMO in Brussels

Key activities – 2016 (*cont'd*)



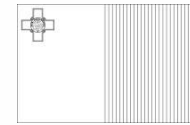
November

- IFR for Technical Assistance and 2 IFRs for EEA Programme and Norway Programme
- Visit by the FMO in Malta for the technical meeting with the Maltese NFP

December

- Forecasts of likely payment applications
- Ongoing monitoring of projects through bilateral meetings, CARS and On the spot checks
- Meeting in Brussels to discuss the details of the new 2014-21 EEA Norway programmes and share the Maltese Government proposals

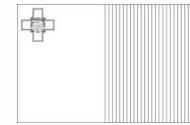
Key activities – 2016 (*cont'd*)



Along the year....

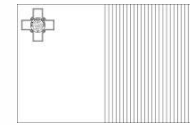
- Bilateral Meetings held regularly with Project Promoters and line Ministries (Programme Implementation Departments)**
- Project Progress Reports filled by Project Promoters bi-annually**
- 8 Administrative and on-the-spot checks**
- Manual of Procedures updated (www.eeagrants.gov.mt / www.norwaygrants.gov.mt)**

Project Achievements – 2016



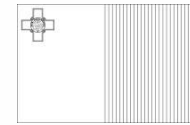
- ❑ **MT02/2-OIL/HNS Spill response capacity building for the protection of Malta seas (TM)**
- **Tender for the provision of IT related equipment was concluded in October 2016**
- **Tender for the supply , delivery and commissioning of pollution response equipment was concluded in December 2016**
- **Tender for the provision of training courses - in November. Training successfully commenced in December and is expected to be complete by the beginning of March 2017.**





- **MT02/3 A new environment Management System for the Hal Saflieni Hypogeum World Heritage Site (HM)**
 - **Contract ‘Condition Assessment of Hypogeum’ –concluded by February 2016**
 - **Award of contract ‘Biological Survey of Hal Saflieni’ – concluded March 2016**
 - **Tender related to structural works awarded in June 2016. and will be concluded by April 2017**



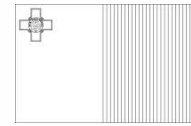


□ MT04/1 A Partnership for Creative Governance (DLG)

- First 2 phases of Leadership Academy Programme (LAP) were held in July 2015. The 3rd and last phase was organised between the 20th and 23rd June 2016.
- An information session on European Label of Governance Excellence (ELOGE) was held on the 24th of June 2016.
- Final conference was held on the 25th of November 2016



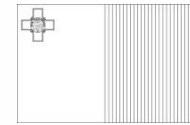
Project Achievements – 2016



- ❑ **MT 04/2 Renewing the Centre of Residential Restorative Services (CoRRS) (MHAS)**
- **Works (Construction, Mechanical & Electrical and Finishes) started in June 2016 following 2 appeals.**
- **A new operational system established**
- **Training for correctional officers will commence in February 2017.**



Project Achievements – 2016

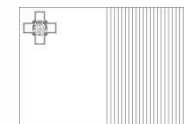


□ MT 02/7 Malta Water Conservation Awareness Centre (Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit SEWCU)

- Works started in May 2016
- Tenders related to training equipment are at awarding stage.
- Works are currently being undertaken on site, and according to the works programme are on schedule and should be completed by March 2017.
- Parallel to structural works-
- Discussions with MITA and Ekoskola
- on the production of interactive and educational material
- Collaboration with PARK for Landscaping and upkeep

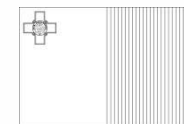


Budget review



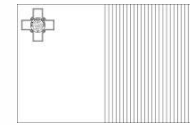
	Total eligible expenditure (€)	Contracted by January 2017 (€)	Total incurred by end 2016 (€)	IFRs by 2016 - Verified + claimed (€)
TA/ BFn	67,500	42,064.93	42,064.93	40,685
MT02 - EEA	2,516,471	2,392,089	1,016,190	306,537
MT 04 - Norway	1,694,118	1,625,293	868780	169,714

Indicative work plan – 2017



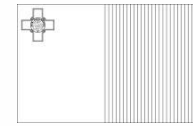
Period	Activity	Responsibility
January	<p>Monitoring Committee</p> <p>Submission of combined Strategic and Annual Programme Reports together with Annexes</p> <p>Submission of draft Annual Meeting Agenda to FMO</p>	NFP
March	Annual Meeting and approval of Strategic and Annual Programme Reports	NFP + > FMC/NMFA
	Interim Financial Reports for Programmes MT01 (EEA), MT02 (Norway) and MT04 (Technical Assistance)	NFP/PO>CA

Indicative work plan – 2016



Period	Activity	Responsibility
April	Publishing of Strategic and Annual Programme Reports and Annual Meeting minutes on FPD website	NFP
	Award of tender of Programme Evaluation	NFP/PO
June	Final Conference	NFP/PO
July	Interim Financial Reports for MT01, MT02 and MT04	NFP/PO>CA
September	Submission of annual TA budget for the following year	NFP > CA> FMC/NMFA
November	Interim Financial Reports for MT01, MT02 and MT04	NFP/PO>CA

Monitoring Plan for 2016



One on-site visit on one chosen project per programme (1 EEA + 1 Norway)

Administrative checks upon award of contracts and prior to verifications

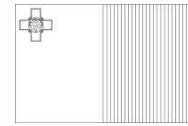
Bilateral meetings with Project Promoters and line Ministries

Project Progress Reports – Bi-annually

Regular financial and physical monitoring of projects

Regular monitoring of CARS - financial management and expenditure

Irregularities and Audits



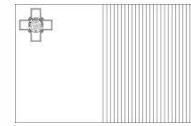
Audit

Authority
found no
systematic
risks

Irregularities
detected before
IFRs – no
financial
recoveries

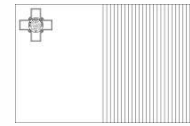
- EEA
- 3 irregularities Norway Grants
- 9 irregularities

Information and Publicity – *MT02/2*



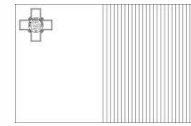
Ms Maria Elena, Project Leader and Ms Katya Zammit, Project Manager during seminar held on 1 December 2016

Information and Publicity – *MT02/7*



Parliamentary Secretary Hon. Dr Ian Borg together with the Project Leader Mr Manuel Sapiano and Director General FPD, Mr Raphael Scerri on 31 August 2016

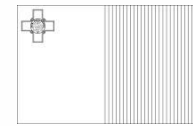
Information and Publicity – *MT04/1*



Home Affairs Minister Hon Carmelo Abela during the visit to the CORRS site in Mtahleb on 14 October 2016

Bilateral relations

- *National Level*



The National Focal Point and Certifying Authority for Croatia together with the National Focal Point and Programme Operator for Malta

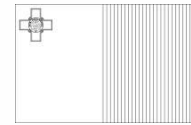
October 2016



Mr Björnsson and Ms Kenesei together with Ms Maria Elena Zammit, project leader during the visit at Hal Saflieni Hypogeum

Bilateral relations

- National Level

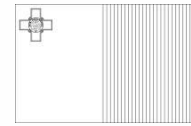


The Minister,
Hon. Dr
George Vella
and Hon.
Elisabeth
Aspaker at the
Ministry for
Foreign
Affairs, Malta
on 6 June
2016



Bilateral relations

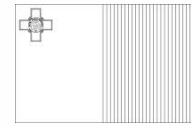
- National Level



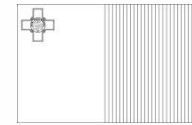
The Maltese National Focal Point and Programme Operator actively participated in the Best Practices and Communications workshop organised by the Financial Mechanism Office, in Bucharest in March 2016.

Bilateral relations

- Programme level -Norway



- **Bilateral visit to Norway, involving the Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security/Department of Correctional Services and the Directorate of the Norwegian Correctional Facility.**



Bilateral relations

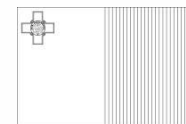
- *Programme level EEA*

HM - Advancing current scientific techniques and methods for cultural heritage support in conservation-restoration and preservation – Heritage Malta in collaboration with the Norwegian University of Life Sciences and the Cultural Heritage Science Open Source of Bologna, Italy

HM- Advancing current scientific techniques and methods for cultural heritage support in conservation-restoration and preservation Cycle 2 – Heritage Malta with the University of Bologna and a Norwegian Academic.

Energy and Water Agency- Establishing bilateral relations with Norwegian Agencies involved in the development of public information campaigns in the environmental/water management sector – The Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit with Norsk Teknisk Museum and the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate.

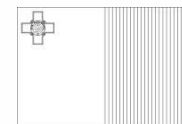
Risks – *National Level*



more prominent being....

Risk	Mitigation measure
Project implementation	Regular contact between National Focal Point/ Programme Operator (NFP/PO) and Project Promoters (PP)
Possible delays in procurement	Regular contact between NFP/PO and PP. Regular contact between NFP/PO and Department of Contracts.

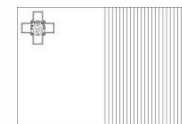
Risks – Programme Level



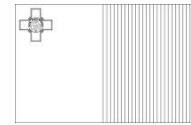
common concerns....

Risk	Mitigation measure
Poor managerial skill in execution of the project	PP must ensure that the contracted expert holds sound organisational skills and sufficient knowledge and practical experience in project management
Adverse weather conditions	Alternative possibility on programme of works
Possible loss of expertise along the course of project implementation	expertise to be engaged on a contractual basis to ensure availability

Risks – Programme Level (cont'd)



Risks	Mitigation
Other risks identified within each project	Hold regular bilateral meetings with Project Promoters to detect possible risks and together discuss mitigation measures
	Carry out administrative and on-the-spot checks to detect irregularities prior to verification



Thank you

More information can be found on: www.eeagrants.gov.mt and www.eeagrants.or