



PROGRAMMING OF EUROPEAN
FUNDS FOR MALTA

2014 2020

18th December 2015



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
MINISTRY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT
FOR THE EU PRESIDENCY 2017 AND EU FUNDS

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

Rural Development Programme for Malta 2014-2020

“Europe investing in rural areas”

Main regulatory changes

- Removal of Axes – 6 EU Priorities sub-divided in 18 Focus Areas
- More flexibility and potential for integrated approaches
- Minimum 30% total RDP budget earmarked to contribute to climate change objectives
- RDP will not support interventions to conform to obligatory standards
- 5% obligatory allocation for LEADER
- Eligibility of expenditure from date of signing of the grant agreement
- Open calls
- Project proposals supported by business plans (where applicable)
- Projects and applicants must provide evidence that they are economically viable

The New Programme

- **5 “needs” identified for Malta and Gozo during the consultation process:**
 - Water, wastes and energy
 - Maltese quality produce
 - Sustainable livestock
 - Landscape and environment
 - Wider rural economy and quality of life
- **12 programmed measures**
- **Total RDP Budget: €97,326,898 (EU Share); €129,769,197 (Public)**
- **Technical Assistance Budget: €3,893,076 (EU Share); €5,190,769 (Public)**

General eligibility criteria

- Submitted application fully filled-in
- Applicant forms part of (or is the legal representative) the beneficiary/applicant organisation
- Proposed project will be implemented within eligible territory
- Evidence of sufficient financial capacity required to cover the private financial component (where applicable)
- Project contributes to the targets and objectives of the relevant measure/s
- Project contributes to at least one indicator target

Measure 1 – Knowledge transfer & information actions

Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €4,125,000 (EU Share); €5,500,000 (Public)

- Training, demonstration actions, exchanges – 100%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Entities organising and providing knowledge transfer/training, demonstration activities or exchanges
- Possess minimum qualifications/requirements
- Access to necessary logistics for proposed activity
- Training provided does not form part of established education system

Measure 2 – Advisory services, farm management & farm relief services

Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €1,875,000 (EU Share); €2,500,000 (Public)

- FAS, farm management, training for trainers – 100%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Advisors, public/private entities possess required competence in relevant sector
- Possess minimum qualifications/requirements
- Access to necessary logistics for proposed activity
- Possess required technical and financial capacity

Measure 3 – Quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs

Article 16 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €3,375,000 (EU Share); €4,500,000 (Public)

- New participation in National/EU quality schemes – 100%, information and promotion activities by producer groups – 70%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Farmers and/or groups of farmers, producer groups
- New participation of at least one farmer in producer group
- Eligible National Scheme regulated by Legal Notice 467 of 2014 (S.L. 427.90 – Establishment of Products of Quality)
- Other EU Schemes

Measure 4 – Investments in physical assets

Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €38,017,440 (EU Share); €50,689,920 (Public)

- Agricultural holdings, processing and marketing, infrastructure, non-productive investments – 50%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Farmers, groups of farmers, businesses, public entities, land managers active in the agriculture/processing/marketing/rural sector
- Environmental Impact Assessment with application (where applicable)
- Processing should concern products listed in Annex I TFEU
- Holdings not in financial difficulty, must be efficient and economically viable

Measure 6 – Farm & business development

Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €9,000,000 (EU Share); €12,000,000 (Public)

- Start-up support for young farmers - 100%, creation and development of non-agricultural activities – 50%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Young farmers as per Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013, non-agricultural SMEs set up in rural areas, other persons in rural areas, farmers or household members of the holding who diversify into non-agricultural activities
- SMEs as per Regulation (UE) No. 1305/2013
- Business plan implementation to start within 9 months of granting of support and completed within 4 years
- Adequate vocational skills and competencies by project completion

Measure 8 – Investments in forest area development & improvement of the viability of forests

Article 21 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €2,625,000 (EU Share); €3,500,000 (Public)

- Planting of indigenous trees/shrubs, protection of habitats and biodiversity, investments in public amenity – 100%

Man Eligibility Conditions:

- Natural persons, public/private forest owners, public/private entities or associations thereof
- Minimum area size eligible 0.5 Ha with minimum tree cover of 10%
- Replanting of trees only during 1st year, unless in the following 5 years damage is higher than 20%

Measure 10 – Agri-environment-climate

Article 28 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €5,250,000 (EU Share); €7,000,000 (Public)

- Support for 6 AECMs, conservation of genetic resources – 100%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Farmers, groups of farmers, land managers (AECMs); research institutes, public/private entities, NGOs, producer groups, associations (genetic resources sub-measure)
- Applicant must possess at least 0.1 Ha, parcels less than 0.01 Ha ineligible
- Farmer, land must be registered in IACS registry
- Respect of minimum requirements of cross compliance

Measure 11 – Organic farming

Article 29 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €150,000 (EU Share); €200,000 (Public)

- conversion, maintenance – 100%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Farmers, groups of farmers
- Support provided after the applicant presents evidence of certification issued by the certification authority
- Respect of minimum requirements of cross compliance
- 2-3 years for conversion, 4-5 years for maintenance

Measure 13 – Payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints

Article 31 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €9,000,000 (EU Share); €12,000,000 (Public)

- LFA – 100%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Farmers
- Respect of minimum requirements of cross compliance
- Applicants must have a minimum of 0.1 Ha of land
- Farmer must be registered in IACS registry

Measure 16 – Cooperation

Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €13,266,382 (EU Share); €17,688,509 (Public)

- EIP, pilot projects, rural tourism network, development of short supply chains and local markets, joint actions related to climate change, bioenergy, diversification

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Operational Groups/cooperations comprising farmers (obligatory), researchers, businesses, consultants, NGOs – at least 2
- Existing Ogs/cooperations eligible for support if activity is new and in conformity with RDP priorities
- Project proposal and OG/cooperation composition must be in line and suitable for the relevant sub-measure

Measure 17 – Risk management

Article 36 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Budget: €1,875,000 (EU Share); €2,500,000 (Public)

- Support for payment of premia related to crop, animal and plant insurance – 65%

Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Farmers
- Insurance against damages caused by adverse climatic events, animal/plant diseases, pest infestation, environmental incidents
- Crisis must destroy more than 30% of the average annual production of the farmer

Measure 19 - LEADER

Articles 42-44 of Regulation (EU) No. 1305/2013

Articles 32-35 of Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013

Budget: €4,875,000 (EU Share); €6,500,000 (Public)

- Development and implementation of the local development strategy – 80%, transnational cooperation – 80%, preparatory and running costs – 100%

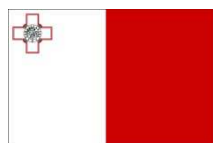
Main Eligibility Conditions:

- Potential LAGs, local actors
- One LAG for each territory
- Private component of the Decision Body must make up at least 51% of the decision body

What's next?

- Establishment of 2014-2020 Monitoring Committee
- Drafting of measure guidance notes in preparation of launch of calls
- Communication Strategy
- Evaluation Plans
- Call for LAGs, approval of LDS

Thank You for your attention



European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
Co-Financing Rate: 75% EU Funds 25% Beneficiary's
Funds



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