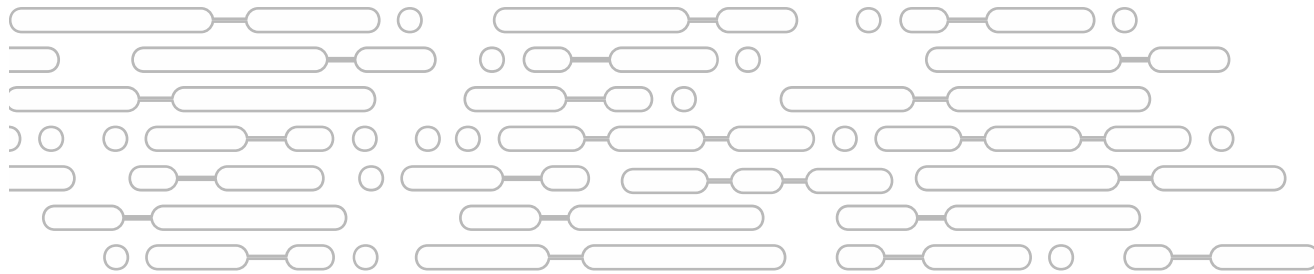


# PROGRAMMING OF EUROPEAN UNION FUNDS FOR MALTA 2021-2027



## ERDF/CF/JTF and ESF+ Eligibility and Selection Criteria 2021-2027

24<sup>th</sup> November 2022



GOVERNMENT  
OF MALTA

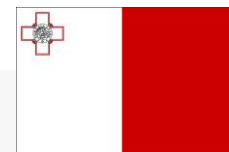
MINISTRY FOR THE ECONOMY,  
EUROPEAN FUNDS AND LANDS

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT  
FOR EUROPEAN FUNDS

## Legal Basis

### Common Provision Regulation No 2021/1060:

- Article 40(2)(a), the Monitoring Committee (MC) shall approve the methodology and criteria used for the selection of operations
- The Managing Authority (MA) is mandated by Regulation 2021/1060 Article 73 to establish and apply criteria and procedures which are non-discriminatory, transparent, that ensure accessibility to persons with disabilities, ensure gender equality and the principle of sustainable development and of the Union policy on the environment in accordance with Article 11 and Article 191(1) TFEU
- Selected operations are approved with the general understanding that these should be implemented in line with the Annex III of Regulation 2021/1060 horizontal enabling conditions tied to: (i) Public procurement; (ii) State Aid rules; (iii) Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union; and (iv) United Nations convention on the rights of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD)

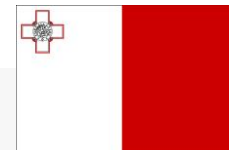


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## Project Eligibility and Selection Criteria

The criteria for the selection of mainstream projects are divided as follows:

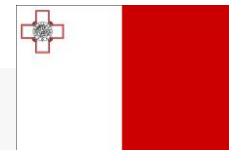
- **Eligibility Criteria** which consist in a gateway assessment which ensures that all applications have reached a minimum standard
- **Selection Criteria** which are designed to assess the fit and contribution of project proposals with the Programme's strategy, its target groups, and its objectives



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## Eligibility Criteria

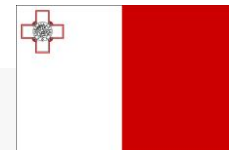
- ✓ Submission of a complete project application as published in the call
- ✓ Project to be implemented within the eligible territory or for its direct benefit
- ✓ Status of operation is either ongoing or not yet started unless otherwise allowed by the specific applicable regulations
- ✓ Applicant organisation is an eligible Applicant as outlined in the call
- ✓ Proof of co-financing (where applicable)
- ✓ Compliance with DNSH principle (Applicable only for ERDF/CF/JTF)



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## Eligibility Criteria

- ✓ Applicant is not in an exclusion situation in accordance with Art 136(1) and Art 141(1) of 2018/1046 Financial Regulation and CPR Art 73(2)(i)
- ✓ Applicant organisation has remit to implement the project within its mandate
- ✓ Selection of a relevant Specific Objective as published in the call
- ✓ Selection of at least one output indicator and one result indicator linked to a relevant Specific Objective as published in the call



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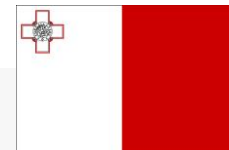
## Eligibility Criteria

### **Submission of a complete project application as published in the call**

- The Applicant must present a complete application form, filled in with all relevant details and documentation using the system made available by the MA, unless otherwise stipulated by the MA
- No outline applications or incomplete applications shall be considered
- Submission of project proposals must be made within the time-limit set for receipt of applications

### **Applicant organisation is an eligible Applicant as outlined in the call**

- The Applicant organisation should be one of the eligible Applicants as outlined in the relevant call
- Supporting documentation related to the legal status of the Applicant, as required in the call, would need to be provided by the Applicant



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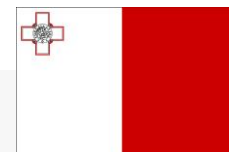
## Eligibility Criteria

**Applicant is not in an exclusion situation in accordance with Art 136 (1) and Art 141 (1) of 2018/1046 Financial Regulation and CPR Art 73(2)(i)**

- The Applicant should sign a declaration confirming that they or any person involved in the project are not in an exclusion situation in accordance with the Financial Regulation and Common Provisions Regulation

**Applicant organisation has remit to implement the project within its mandate**

- Applicant must be publicly mandated or authorized to implement the project by virtue of the applicable law establishing the Organisation or by the respective Statute in the case of NGOs
- The parameters and objectives of the project must fall within the remit and mandate of the Applicant
- Supporting documentation as required in the call would need to be provided



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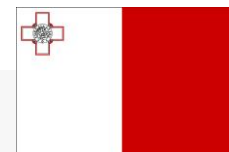
## Eligibility Criteria

### **Project to be implemented within the eligible territory or for its direct benefit**

- The eligible territory for the Programme is the whole territory for the Republic of Malta. All or part of an operation may be implemented outside of a Member State, including outside the Union, provided that the operation contributes to objectives of the Programme and provides direct benefits to the targeted territory of Malta.

### **Proof of Co-financing (where applicable)**

- In cases where Government is not co-financing the project from the national budget, Applicants must submit, together with the application form, evidence of co-financing.



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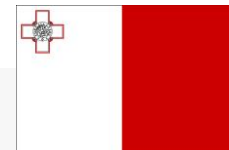
## Eligibility Criteria

### **Selection of a relevant Specific Objective as published in the call**

- Only proposals that selected the relevant Specific Objective/s as published in the call will be considered.

### **Selection of at least one output indicator and one result indicator linked to a relevant Specific Objective as published in the call**

- The project must have at least one output and at least one result indicator in the relevant Priority and under the Specific Objective as published in the call.

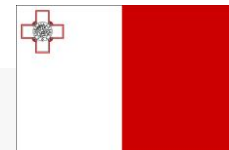


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## Eligibility Criteria

**Status of operation is either ongoing or not yet started, unless otherwise allowed by the specific applicable regulations**

- Unless otherwise allowed by the specific applicable regulations, operations shall not be considered eligible for support by the Funds where they have been physically completed or fully implemented before the application for funding under the programme is submitted, irrespective of whether all related payments have been made.

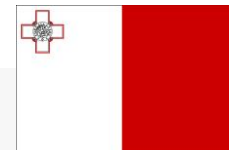


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## Eligibility Criteria

### **Compliance with the DNSH Principle – *(Applicable only for ERDF/CF/JTF)***

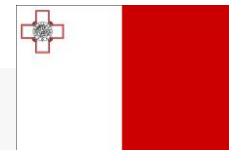
- The proposed operation shall comply with the applicable specific objective and should be coherent with the actions already assessed as DNSH compliant within the programme. The proposal should reflect the justification and mitigation measures identified in the DNSH assessment of the Programme's actions, which are aimed to prevent, reduce, and off-set any significant risk on the environment.



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## Selection Criteria

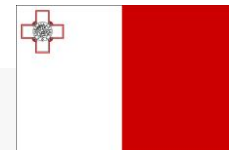
Criteria	ERDF/CF/JTF Programme	ESF+ Programme
Capacity of the organisation	10 marks	10 marks
Contribution of the project to the relevant Development Needs	10 marks	10 marks
Potential of the project to contribute to the achievement of the Expected Results	10 marks	10 marks



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## Selection Criteria

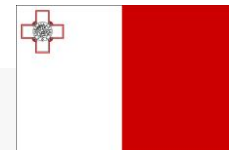
Criteria	ERDF/CF/JTF Programme	ESF+ Programme
Contribution towards indicators	10 marks	10 marks
Readiness	15 marks	15 marks
Project Sustainability	10 marks	10 marks



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## Selection Criteria

Criteria	ERDF/CF/JTF Programme	ESF+ Programme
Quality of application form	10 marks	10 marks
Horizontal principles - Equal opportunities and non-discrimination	10 marks	10 marks
Horizontal principles – Sustainable Development	15 marks	10 marks
Partnership	N/A	5 marks



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## Selection Criteria

### **Past experience in EU/similar projects**

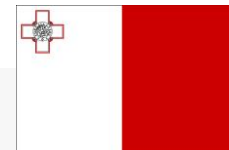
*ERDF/CF/JTF 10 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- Adequate overall expertise within the Applicant organisation and project partners

### **Contribution of the project to the relevant Development Needs**

*ERDF/CF/JTF 10 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- Evidence of real demand for the project (qualitative and quantitative evidence) to address a gap as identified in the relevant Priority within the Programme and how it will contribute to the need of the Programme (evidence showing to what extent this need will be addressed through the activities proposed)
- To what extent is the project contributing to the National and EU policies and consistent with corresponding enabling conditions



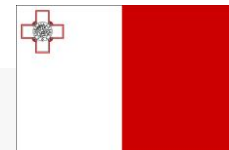
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## Selection Criteria

### Potential of the project to contribute to the achievement of the Expected Results

*ERDF/CF/JTF 10 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- Evidence of how the project will contribute to the achievement of the Expected Results as identified in the relevant Priority in the Programme
- If partners are involved, evidence of how they will contribute to the achievement of the Expected Results
- The ability of the project to mobilise complementary funding/actions to achieve the Expected Results
- Innovative solutions proposed in this project to achieve the Expected Results



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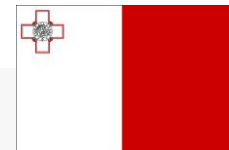


## Selection Criteria

### Contribution towards indicators

*ERDF/CF/JTF 10 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- The selection of all relevant indicators as applicable for the project
- Adequate description of the selected indicators in the project proposal including an explanation of the method of quantification and verification of targets
- Assessment of whether there are any unrealistic indicator targets which are not achievable
- The contribution of the proposed indicators towards achieving Programme targets as outlined in the call



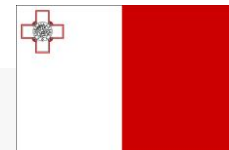
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## Selection Criteria

### Readiness

*ERDF/CF/JTF 15 marks    ESF+ 15 marks*

- Risk associated with the timeline of the project as proposed by the Applicant
- Readiness, assessed on the basis of tenders, CBA/FFS/FS, Planning Authority permits, recruitment procedures and other relevant documentation pertaining to training, scholarships amongst others, depending on the nature of the published call and the nature of the proposal
- Other risks



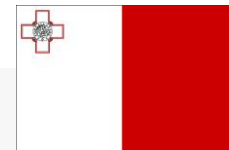
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## Selection Criteria

### Project Sustainability

*ERDF/CF/JTF 10 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- Magnitude of post operating costs against total project costs
- The Applicant organisation's financial stability
- Added Value of the project and complementarity with other projects



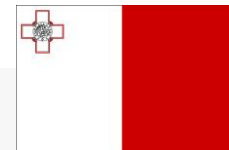
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## Selection Criteria

### Quality of application form

*ERDF/CF/JTF 10 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- General presentation and overall coherence between different sections of the proposal
- Proposed budget is in line with the proposed activities, demonstrating sound financial management and the absence of no 'Double Funding'
- Adequate description and purpose of each activity being proposed including a work plan/Gantt chart with regards to the implementation of these activities
- Proposal identifies communication strategies/actions showing how the use of EU Funds will be effectively publicised and communicated with the relevant target groups of the proposed project and the general public



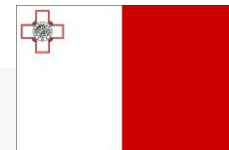
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## Selection Criteria

### Horizontal principles - Equal opportunities and non-discrimination

*ERDF/CF/JTF 10 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- Effective measures addressing equality between men and women
- Effective measures addressing equal opportunities for all
- Effective measures ensuring the principle of non-discrimination



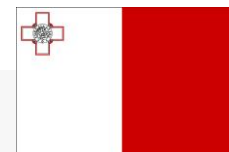
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## Selection Criteria

### Horizontal principles – Sustainable Development

*ERDF/CF/JTF 15 marks    ESF+ 10 marks*

- Effective measures that contribute towards economic growth
- Effective measures that contribute towards social cohesion
- Effective measures that contributes towards environmental sustainability



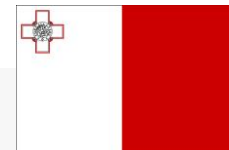
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## Selection Criteria

### Partnership

*ESF+ 5 marks*

- The added value of the involved partner/s in achieving the expected results
- Clear evidence of the mutual benefit of the proposed partnership
- Partnership between organisations of a different nature



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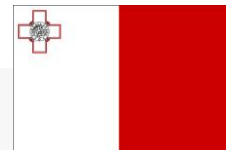
## Contact Details

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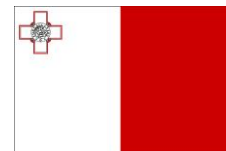
**THANK YOU**  
*FOR YOUR TIME*



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