

Funds: European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund (CF)

Programming Period: 2014-2020

Budget Available: €676 Million

Reporting Year: 2022

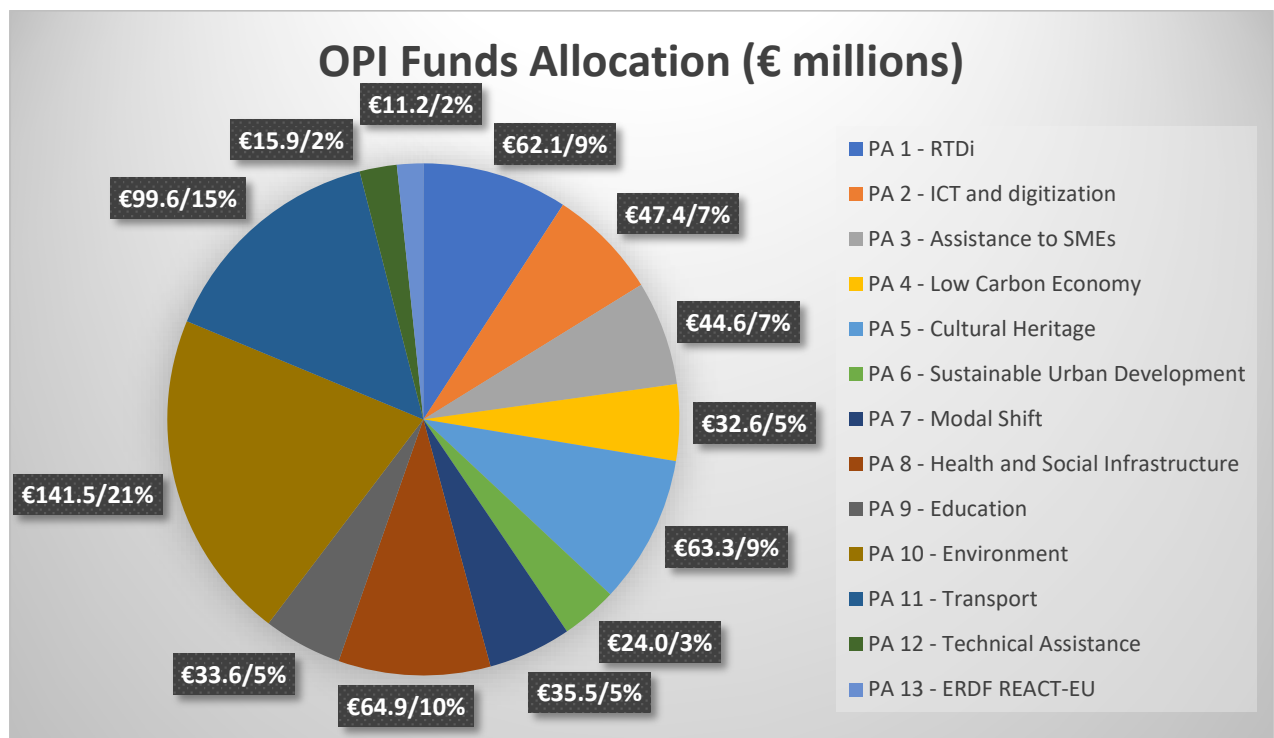


The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund (CF) are two European Union Funding instruments intended to support infrastructural investments in less developed regions.

The aim of these two funds is to assist Malta in fulfilling a number of different objectives, known as Thematic Objectives, which reflect national priorities. The ERDF in Malta supports infrastructural investments in education, health, social infrastructure, cultural heritage research and innovation, renewable energy, and competitiveness (Priority Axes (PAs) 1-9). On the other hand, CF supports infrastructural investments in road and maritime infrastructure as well as investments in the water and waste sectors (PAs 10 and 11).

Following a change to the Operational Programme, a further €11.2M ERDF REACT-EU funds were made available to Malta in order to foster resilience in the healthcare system (PA 13), resulting in a total allocation of €676M under Operational Programme I.

The allocation of ERDF, CF and REACT-EU funds under the OP is as follows:



How can one access these funds?

In the case of Government Ministries and Entities, including public bodies and NGOs not involved in an economic activity which is in competition with the private sector, applications can be submitted directly with the Planning and Priorities Coordination Division (PPCD) acting as the Managing Authority when calls are published for projects in the priority areas identified above. Further details can be found on <https://fondi.eu>

In the case of the private sector, including bodies involved in an economic activity, applications can be submitted with the Measures and Support Division. Further details can be found on <https://fondi.eu>

Contractors interested in submitting tender offers in relation to projects being implemented through the assistance of EU funds, should visit and register on <https://www.etenders.gov.mt/epps/home.do> in order to be able to participate in public calls for tenders issued by Project Beneficiary and Implementers.

Even though there are no calls under these funds that are earmarked for private citizens, citizens may still benefit from the different funded actions that aim to have significant positive impact on everyday life, such as through the introduction of new e-services, the construction of a new hospital, actions aimed towards a cleaner environment and better quality of water, and many others. Furthermore, citizens can directly benefit from the European Social Fund, which focuses on human capital, through schemes such as scholarships and actions aimed at improved labour market situations. Further details can be found on <https://fondi.eu>

Progress by end of 2022

With 2023 being the final year during which any expenditure covered under the 2014-2020 programme may be incurred, the MA's work during 2022 was geared towards monitoring of project implementation, as well as ensuring a steady pace of disbursement, verification, and certification of expenditure. Although the pace of implementation picked up on the majority of projects, the delays experienced in the previous two years due to Covid inevitably still had an effect on most project timelines. New challenges experienced during the year were also related to the war in Ukraine, in terms of both supply of material and price increases. Nevertheless, considerable progress was measured on the majority of projects.

As at end 2022, the allocation under OPI was fully committed in terms of projects and Aid Schemes for the private sector. The REACT-EU allocation that was programmed into OPI in December 2021 was also fully committed with the approval of one project targeting the resilience of the healthcare system with a value of €11.2M.

By year end, €513M or 75% of the Programme Allocation had been disbursed whilst payment claims amounting to €457.3M were submitted to the Commission.

To date 74 operations, including 8 Aid Schemes for the private sector and 1 Financial Instrument (FI) have been selected for EU funding: 63 operations (incl. Aid Schemes and FI) are being funded through ERDF, 1 operation is being funded through ERDF REACT-EU and 10 operations are being funded under CF.

Several projects implemented under this OP have registered good progress and at the end of 2022 works on the ground were either completed or very close to completion. The Ta' Qali Crafts Village has become an attractive area for artisans to showcase their crafts and the International Knowledge platform is proving to be a useful tool for SMEs. Works to install EE measures at an elderly people's home have also been completed in all the 22 wards and will be further contributing to Malta's reduction in GHG emissions. The impact of EU funding has been particularly tangible where NGO projects were involved. The St. Dominic Priory in Rabat was inaugurated during 2022 and the ground floor level of the Caravaggio Centre and the docudrama about the life and works of Caravaggio has been opened to the public. The Caritas Community Centre has continued to receive clients and the new Hospice Malta palliative care centre reached an advanced stage of completion.

TA' QALI CRAFTS VILLAGE HAS BECOME AN ATTRACTIVE AREA FOR ARTISANS TO SHOWCASE THEIR CRAFTS AND THE INTERNATIONAL KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM IS PROVING TO BE A USEFUL TOOL FOR SMES.



DURING THE SAID YEAR, 182 APPLICATIONS WERE RECEIVED FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WITH A TOTAL OF 96 PROPOSALS APPROVED FOR FUNDING AMOUNTING TO € 2.7MILLION

Progress has also been made on assistance to enterprises. In 2022, a total of 90 open rolling calls were issued under 6 different Aid schemes. Such open rolling calls with different cut-off dates ensure that the private sector is able to submit proposals regularly. During the said year, 182 applications were received, with a total of 96

proposals approved for funding. 75% of these were submitted by micro enterprises. The Consultancy Scheme and e-Commerce Scheme saw an increase in interest with 90 and 62 applications received respectively in 2022, showing enterprises keen to explore new business options, identifying further ways to expand or diversify their products/services and e-commerce selling.

With an allocation of €15M, the EERE FI offers guarantees and interest rate subsidies to incentivise individuals and enterprises to carry out RES and EE measures. By year end, 106 loans amounting to c. €2.7M were issued to cover investments mainly related to EE. In order to increase the uptake of this Financial Instrument, during the year, investments in green modes of transport (e.g., electric vehicles, purchase of pedelegs and e-scooters) were included as part of the eligible investments. Moreover, entities in the public/private sector whose investment purpose is not related to an economic activity were also included as eligible beneficiaries.

RES AND EE MEASURES PROVIDING 106 LOANS AMOUNTING TO CIRCA €2.7M. INVESTMENTS IN GREEN MODES OF TRANSPORT (E.G., ELECTRIC VEHICLES, PURCHASE OF PEDELECS AND E-SCOOTERS)



Operational Programme I (OPI) covers a variety of areas of investment, the details of which can be found below. A list of the beneficiaries under ERDF and CF can be found here: <https://fondi.eu//important-documentation/reference-documents/list-of-beneficiaries/2014-2020-programming-period/>

A list of beneficiaries benefitting from grants under the ERDF Aid Schemes can be found here: <https://businessenhance.gov.mt/>

The thematic evaluation of EU Funded assistance for SMEs was concluded in 2022. The evaluation consisted of four main outputs: the ex-post evaluation of the SMEi Financial Instrument and 6 State Aid schemes, 5 of which were funded through ERDF, as well as ex-ante assessments carried out in preparation for the new Programme in terms of repayable and non-repayable grants targeting the private sector. The results of the evaluation are discussed in section 4 of this report.

2022 was a busy year for Malta in terms of communication events. During 2022, the European Commission's EU in My School campaign, consisting of an artistic competition for students, was launched. The finalists' artistic submissions were displayed in Valletta on Europe Day, as part of an event organised by S.E.M. in collaboration with other national entities.

In May, Malta hosted the INFORM EU Network for its second plenary meeting of the year. Around 300 communications delegates from all Member States took part in the hybrid conference. The programme consisted of workshops, panel discussions, Country Mixers, presentations, and fund-specific meetings.



NEW EU FUNDS PORTAL
[HTTPS://FONDI.EU](https://fondi.eu). THE NEW
WEBSITE CONSOLIDATES
INFORMATION ON ALL EU FUNDED
PROGRAMMES.

Towards the second half of 2022, work on the new EU Funds portal <https://fondi.eu> took off. The portal's main aim is to consolidate information on all EU Funded Programmes, covering each Programme's objectives, activities, funding opportunities and achievements among others, in one single e-space. The launch of the website took place in Q1 2023.

Furthermore, 2022 marked a special year for Malta with its participation in the RegioStars competition. A wide-reaching national communications campaign was undertaken on social media to urge the public to vote for Malta's project. Featuring a throw-back edition, the ERDF-funded restoration of the Cittadella fortifications in Gozo placed 1st from among 15 outstanding EU projects from a pool of 300.

Research and Technology Development and Innovation

The Europe 2020 strategy places R&D&I at the forefront of Europe's efforts to become a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy which delivers high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. As at the end of 2022, 2 mainstream projects, TRAKE and SLC, were

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being implemented under PA1. The equipment procured through the TRAKE project has given the opportunity and the necessary boost to the University of Malta to embark on research projects in new areas, with more than 67 FTE researchers. 78% of equipment already procured through this project is being used for research purposes at several locations, including different faculties at the University of Malta, at Mater Dei Hospital and the Malta Life Sciences Park. There are currently 38 post-graduate students conducting research through the EU funded facilities. To date, a total of 127 research studies have been undertaken in the areas of mechanical engineering, metallurgy and materials engineering, and industrial and manufacturing engineering.



A TOTAL OF 78 DOCTORAL/MASTERS RESEARCH CANDIDATES CONDUCTING RESEARCH THROUGH EU FUNDED EQUIPMENT UNDER TRAKE AND SLC PROJECTS.

Progress has also been registered on the Sustainable Living Complex, a model resource-efficient building providing research facilities for smart specialization areas. Construction works on the four buildings were ongoing with three of them nearing completion in December 2022. M&E and Finishing works are undertaken concurrently. Furthermore, 68% of

research equipment has been procured and is being used in other labs, which will be eventually moved to the SLC once completed. To date, there are 11 doctoral/masters research candidates conducting research through this EU-Funded equipment.

Investment in the ICT Sector

Through funds allocated for the ICT Sector, the SIntegraM project has provided Malta with a common spatial dataset which is already being used for various tasks such as water resources enforcement, planning subterranean analysis, crime scene analysis, digitisation of heritage sites and the protection of flora and fauna.

The other mainstream project CONVERGE is aimed at strengthening the public service through the development of ICT systems and consolidating digital capacity. A total of 25 new e-services applications are now available, increasing citizens' use of online services, strengthening digital systems for a more efficient public service and putting into practice the Once-Only Principle, whereby a citizen using a government service submits personal information once only. The setting up and roll out of the remaining 3 e-services relating to Taxation Technology Modernisation; System for Administration of Social Benefits (SABS) and pLotter – Land Registry Solution, is still ongoing.

25 NEW E-SERVICES APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE UNDER THE CONVERGE PROJECT, PROVIDING A MORE EFFICIENT PUBLIC SERVICE AND PUTTING INTO PRACTICE THE ONCE-ONLY PRINCIPLE.



The e-Commerce Grant Scheme has helped in providing opportunities for enterprises to go digital. In 2022, there were 24 cut-off dates for proposals, in which 62 applications were submitted, of which 28 were approved with a total value of around €132k. By end 2022, the companies using EU funds to sell



104 COMPANIES USING EU FUNDS TO SELL THROUGH ONLINE MEANS. OPERATORS USING THE INTERNET FOR SELLING GOODS AND SERVICES IN MALTA REACHED A NEW HIGH OF 36.8% IN DECEMBER 2022

through online means amounted to 104. The companies using EU funds to sell through online means amounted to 104. The scheme's positive input is also confirmed through data issued by the EU Statistics Office, showing that operators using the internet for selling goods or services in Malta reached a new high of 36.28% in December 2022, when compared to the 32% of the previous year.

Investment in SMEs

Investment of €44.6M in SMEs has resulted in 3 mainstream projects and 6¹ Grant Schemes being implemented.

The investment at the Ta' Qali Crafts Village increased its attractiveness, enabling operators to showcase their artisanship and consequently increase visitors' numbers and ensure long term sustainability of the crafts village. Furthermore, private enterprises are in a better position to look beyond the shores of the local economy and invest further to export their products to the international market, also through the assistance offered by the International Knowledge Platform. The latter gives SMEs access to various types of trade information services such as market insight, international market intelligence database and e-learning training courses.

The Gozo Innovation Hub is currently accommodating 5 enterprises investing in the knowledge-based economy. The hub offers different services which facilitate new companies to set up their company in Gozo and operate successfully therefrom. Furthermore, 11 tenants are operating from the Industrial Workshop Complex.

As regards aid to enterprises in the form of a grant, in 2022 there were 24 cut off dates for the Consultancy Scheme, 6 cut off dates for the Growth Scheme and 12 cut off dates for the Internationalisation, Diversification and Start-up Schemes. During 2022, 120 applications were received under the 5 Schemes, out of which 68 were awarded grants with a total value of €2.6M. Till end 2022, a total of 514 grants with a value of €25.5M were awarded to the Maltese private sector under these schemes.

A TOTAL OF 514 GRANTS WITH A VALUE OF €25.5M WERE AWARDED TO THE MALTESE PRIVATE SECTOR UNDER THESE SCHEMES



¹ There are two streams of the SME Growth Scheme since eligibility criteria were changed due to updated State Aid rules.

Shifting towards a Low-Carbon Economy

Moving towards resource-efficiency, low-carbon economy and sustainable growth is one of the central objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy and remains one of Malta's top priorities for this Programming Period. Apart from a Financial Instrument (FI) covering Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy Sources (RES), 5 projects covering RES and 6 covering EE measures are being funded.

During 2022, 2 local banks were implementing the FI (EERE Malta) with an ERDF contribution of €15M creating a loan portfolio value of €45M, to finance RES and EE initiatives. By year end, 106 loans amounting to around €2.7M were issued to cover investments mainly related to EE.

Following the initial eligible measures of RES and EE interventions in buildings, a decision was taken to widen the eligibility candidates to include entities in the public/private sector whose investment purpose is not related to an economic activity and to widen the eligibility criteria to include investments in green modes of transport such as electric vehicles, pedelecs and e-scooters. Notwithstanding the said changes to the FI, the take-up of loans still faces challenges, especially due to State Aid limitations and the short implementation due to the closure of the Programme.

Works at St Vincent de Paul involving retrofitting actions have been completed in 22 wards. Works relating to RES and EE measures at the Gozo Administration Centre, in public buildings, schools and other NGO led buildings, are ongoing.

These projects are expected to contribute towards Malta's national target of 10% gross final energy consumption of energy generated from RES. The successful completion of the PV installations in households has assisted in contributing 0.5% towards this target. Through the street lighting project, a decrease of over 70% of annual primary energy consumption has been reported. This contribution is expected to increase with the conclusion of the remaining EE projects.

Investing in Natural and Cultural Heritage

The Natural and Cultural Heritage of Malta are given priority within this Programme with a large number of projects for the protection of natural and cultural assets all over Malta and Gozo being funded to the tune of €63.3M. Nine of the projects being implemented through these funds are being led by NGOs.

An ecclesiastical museum at St Dominic Priory in Rabat, narrating the history of the Dominican order, was inaugurated in 2022. The groundfloor at the 'Caravaggio Centre' at St John's Co-Cathedral, including a docu-drama about the life of Caravaggio, is open to the public. The restoration of the Piano Nobile corridors and Uccelleria at the Grand Master's Palace in Valletta is complete and works to relocate the Knights' Armoury are nearing completion.

Following the disinfestation and digitisation of manuscripts, the Museum and Visitors' centre at the Notarial Archives in Valletta is ready to showcase the precious notarial collection.

Construction works on the MICAS Galleries for contemporary art are now at a pivotal point with the roofing of the exhibits space with an iconic, lightweight steel and glass roofing structure.

Sustainable Urban Development

A project addressing the specific needs of the Lower Valletta community for Sustainable Urban Development has an allocation of €24M.

Following the inauguration of the Valletta Design Cluster in 2021, an outreach programme for individuals and organisations working in the creative sectors was launched in order to bring greater awareness of the resources available. This building offers facilities to artists, creatives, entrepreneurs and organisations willing to generate positive social value for the community through innovation and creativity.

Hiliet il-Komunità continued to support the community to sustainably benefit from the prosperity of this urban generation under PA 6. Following a comprehensive exercise to assess and highlight the community's potential and its diverse market of talent, a number of initiatives to bring the community closer to the job market, such as a workshop for digital literacy, art and sewing classes, were also organised. Actions aimed to bring the elderly closer to the community were also undertaken. Preparations were ongoing for the Skills Fair to be organised in 2023.

The upgrading of external façades and common areas of four blocks of social housing adjacent to Mattia Preti Square are progressing well. Around 60 beneficiaries benefitted from funding to restore/replace balconies and apertures. These works contribute towards the improvement of the traditional streetscape and historic vistas of the Marsamxett area.

A Heritage Trail Mobile App rendering the cultural and historical assets found within Lower Valletta was created providing visitors an interactive version of a real-world environment through digital visual elements.

Shifting towards Low-Carbon Transport

With an allocation of €35.5M, the SMITHS project, which includes several components, aims to encourage a modal shift, sustainable and alternative low carbon transport modes, improve air quality and reduce GHG emissions from transport.

By end 2022, all 130 charging pillars for electric vehicles had been installed and commissioned. The shuttle bus service currently operating from the Gozo heliport parking to the Port of Mġarr, using 6 e-buses funded under this project, has seen a significant uptake by commuters. An average of 1,855 passengers monthly were recorded between May and Oct 2022. This service is being provided free to commuters on the sister island from 05:00 to 21:00.

As regards maritime, this project includes works for constructing 4 ferry-landing spaces in different locations, being Bormla, Sliema, Buġibba and Marsamxett. The Bormla ferry landing site is the most advanced, with construction completed in 2022 and the superstructures and gangways are at an advanced stage. Works on the Sliema ferrylanding have advanced significantly.



CONSTRUCTING 4 FERRY-LANDING SPACES IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS, BEING BORMLA, SLIEMA, BUĠIBBA AND MARSAMXETT

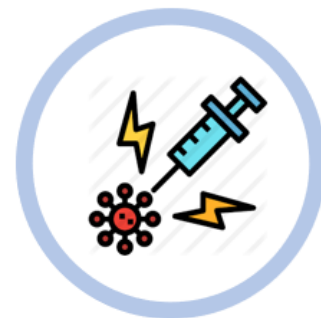
Procurement for the Intelligent Traffic Management platform (software, hardware) was launched in November and December 2022 respectively and evaluation is expected to be concluded in Q2 2023.

Socially Inclusive Society – Health and Social Infrastructure

Under the new COVID-related project, approved following the flexibilities introduced by the Commission to tackle the pandemic, an expenditure of €16.3M covered the procurement of vaccines, contributing to around 460,000 individuals benefitting from the said vaccines whilst an additional €2.1M covered the procurement of rapid tests and PPEs.

The flagship health infrastructure project (Paola Primary Health Care Centre) saw construction finalised reaching completion up to level 17, with works related to M&Es and Finishes still ongoing. Once completed, this primary health care centre is expected to off-load demand and thus alleviate pressures from Mater Dei by providing the necessary facilities to undertake minor surgery and offering medical imaging and dental clinic services, amongst others. A total of 25 medical services are expected to be provided from this Centre.

AN EXPENDITURE OF €16.3M COVERED THE PROCUREMENT OF VACCINES, CONTRIBUTING TO AROUND 460,000 INDIVIDUALS BENEFITTING FROM THE SAID VACCINES



In the area of social housing, investment continued in 332 units in a total of 65 blocks, with around 1,200 residents benefitting from improved accessibility through the installation of energy efficient lifts.

The project managed by the NGO Caritas Malta which has the aim of supporting the integration of vulnerable people in society, has to date welcomed over 3000 clients at its new premises. The other project managed by an NGO, Hospice Malta, which has the aim of setting up a new Palliative Care complex, is nearing completion.

Education, Training and Life-Long Learning

Two mainstream projects are being implemented under this PA dedicated to investments in the education sector.

A milestone for the MCAST project was achieved in January 2022 when the new Resource Centre (MRC) started welcoming students. This building hosts the Library and Learning Resource Centre, the Learning Support Unit, the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Department and the Apprenticeship and Work-based Learning Department. Given that the Institute of Engineering and Transport has already been completed, the remaining infrastructural component where M&E and Finishing works are still ongoing is the ICT Institute within the same campus.



MORE THAN 8,000 STUDENTS FROM 14 DIFFERENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN MALTA AND GOZO ARE USING THE 78 VET LABS EQUIPPED UNDER THE INVEST PROJECT.

Students and staff continue to use the Data Management Framework for the collection of students' records at MCAST, which was also funded under this project. As at Dec 2022, the student population at the MCAST campus making use of the facilities financed by ERDF

was around 8791 (full-time and part-time).

More than 8,000 students from 14 different secondary schools in Malta and Gozo are using the 78 VET labs equipped under the INVEST project, covering areas such as hospitality, engineering, IT, health and social care, fashion and textiles, agribusiness, media, retail, hairdressing, and beauty.

The different VET/applied subjects offer broader opportunities to students and aim at increasing students' retention in the Maltese educational system. The INVEST project provides students with interesting work-based educational opportunities, by introducing meaningful, engaging and relevant subjects that encourage students to continue with their education and thus discouraging early school leaving.

Environmentally Friendly Society

Seven projects targeting the betterment of the environment through rehabilitation, infrastructure investments and social awareness are being implemented, with an allocation of €141.5M.

The project dedicated to improving Malta's water resource management registered significant progress with actions ranging from the design of several water monitoring networks, the drilling of deep boreholes with core recovery, deployment of specialised probes in the drilled wells and hydro-chemical data analysis of water resources across Malta. The freshwater-saltwater interface monitoring network equipment arrived in Malta in May 2022 and the Vadose Zone monitoring network is now fully operational.

A strong media presence was maintained to promote the water conservation campaign including deployment of demonstration sites and engagement with the public. National door-to-door distribution continued in 2022, resulting in a total of over 90k water saving packs and more than 68k water kits given to households.

THE WATER CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN RESULTED IN A TOTAL OF OVER 90K WATER SAVING PACKS AND MORE THAN 68K WATER KITS GIVEN TO HOUSEHOLDS.



The waste campaign saw the inauguration of four Reuse Centres to further promote the concepts of 'reuse' and 'recycling.' Works on the Rudimentary Line which undertakes waste separation of dry recyclables were concluded during 2022. This equipment will improve the recycling rate at the ECOHIVE Complex.



WASTE CAMPAIGN SAW THE INAUGURATION OF FOUR REUSE CENTRES TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE CONCEPTS OF 'REUSE' AND 'RECYCLING'.

THE MULTI-MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY GATHERS DIFFERENT WASTE STREAMS FOR PREPARATION AND STORAGE FOR REUTILIZATION AND EXPORT.

In 2022, works on the Multi-Material Recovery Facility were nearing completion and the site is expected to be operational in 2023 to gather different waste streams for preparation and

storage for reutilisation and export, aimed to reduce waste that is channelled to landfilling. Commissioning of the retrofitting of Sant'Antnin Waste Treatment plant is ongoing.

Investing in TEN-T Infrastructure

In an effort to sustain the shift towards more sustainable transport systems on the Maltese Islands, €99.6M are being invested in 3 projects that target bottlenecks in road infrastructure as well as improve port infrastructure which plays a critical role in the economy and transport sector.

The Ten-T Road network project, focusing on infrastructural interventions along key road sections of the TEN-T route in Malta to address various bottlenecks, was concluded in 2022, with the completion of works on the Mrieħel-Ta' Srina Junction Bypass. This component will be contributing towards an additional 3.7km of reconstructed and upgraded roads. Works involved the construction of a new road as well as the upgrading and widening of the remaining part of the bypass with the aim of increasing road safety and reducing journey time.

Apart from the above, a total of 8.33km of upgraded roads have been registered mainly from the Kappara Junction, completed in 2019 and the Santa Luċija Underpass and Luqa Road, all part of the Ten-T road network. These projects addressed bottlenecks in road infrastructure in Malta.

The maritime TEN-T project is aimed to increase the operational capacity of the Grand Harbour port in Valletta. Dredging works within the Harbour enhancing the operational capacity of the port were completed by December 2022. The contract for the construction of a new cargo facility within the Grand Harbour was awarded in Q4 2022 and the possibility of phasing this project under the current Programme and the 2021-2027 Programme is being assessed.

REACT-EU – Fostering resilience in the healthcare system

Following a request for modifications of OPI and the subsequent approval by the Commission in December 2021, a new PA funded under the REACT-EU, with an allocation of €11.2M, was introduced.

In 2022, the MA invited the Ministry for Health, as the responsible/competent authority in Malta, to submit an application for project/s directed towards supporting the resilience of the healthcare system through investments in technologies, equipment and supplies. One project was submitted for assessment by the Project Selection Committee and the project selection process was concluded in October 2022.

The project includes, amongst other actions, the procurement of X-Ray Machine technology for improved and more efficient diagnoses, as well as portable echocardiography equipment for better scanning of the heart and nearby blood vessels. In order to provide a more resilient and comfortable service to patients in their home, a number of electric vehicles were purchased, together with a number of Rapid Response Vehicles for faster access to patients.

The equipment being funded is expected to result in improved patient treatment, more targeted patient care and a better quality of life.

Looking Forward

2023 is the final year during which any expenditure incurred under the 2014-2020 Programme will be deemed as eligible for funding. As usual, the work of the Managing Authority will be focused on the verification of expenditure, whilst also ensuring that projects are brought to a successful closure.

The projects being implemented under this Programme are expected to have a profound and positive impact on Maltese society and on the quality of life of EU citizens in Malta. For this

reason, the achievement of the Programme's targets and expected results is of paramount importance. The successful closure of the Programme and the various projects being implemented through ERDF, CF and REACT-EU funds, will therefore also entail the close monitoring of the targets and expected results to ensure the achievement thereof.

THE PROJECTS BEING IMPLEMENTED UNDER THIS PROGRAMME ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE A PROFOUND AND POSITIVE IMPACT ON MALTESE SOCIETY AND ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF EU CITIZENS IN MALTA.

