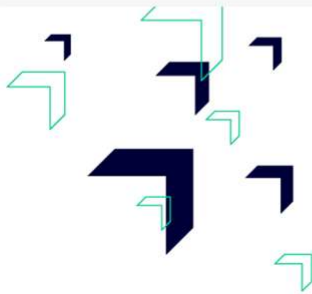




GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA



Rural Development Programme for Malta 2014-2020



Monitoring Committee
6th October 2023

Programme Implementation



Co-funded by
the European Union

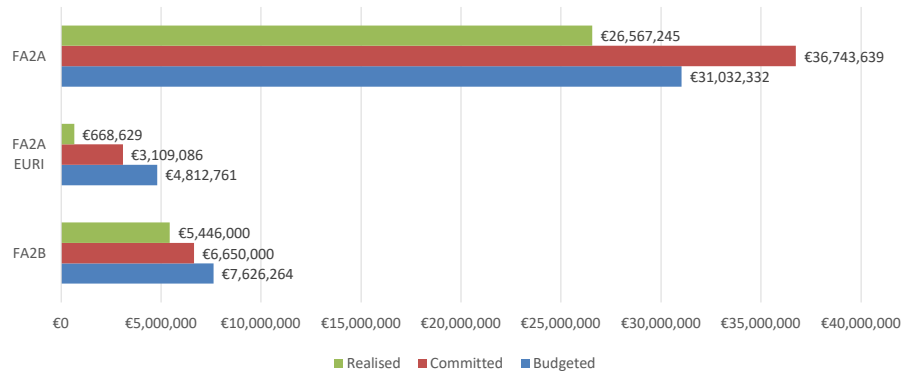
1



Committed and Realised Amounts by Priority and Focus Area as at September 2023

2

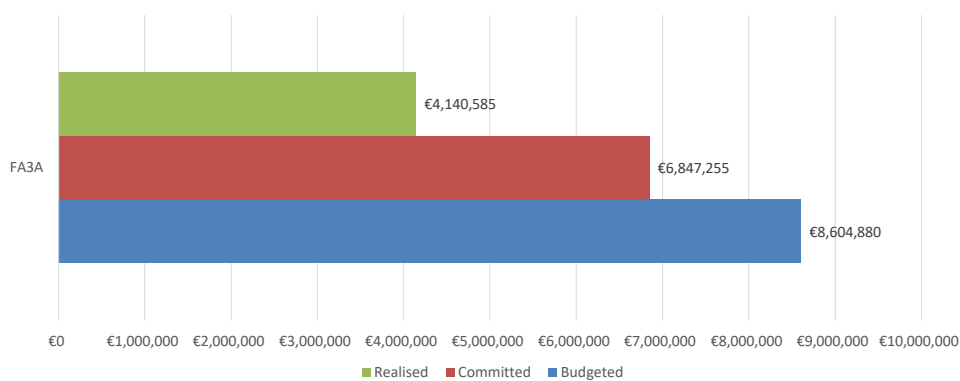
Priority 2 - Enhancing farm viability and competitiveness of all types of agriculture in all regions and promoting innovative farm technologies



FA 2A: Improving the economic performance of all farms
FA 2B: Facilitating the entry of adequately skilled farmers

3

Priority 3- Promoting food chain organisation, including processing and marketing of agricultural products, animal welfare and risk management in agriculture

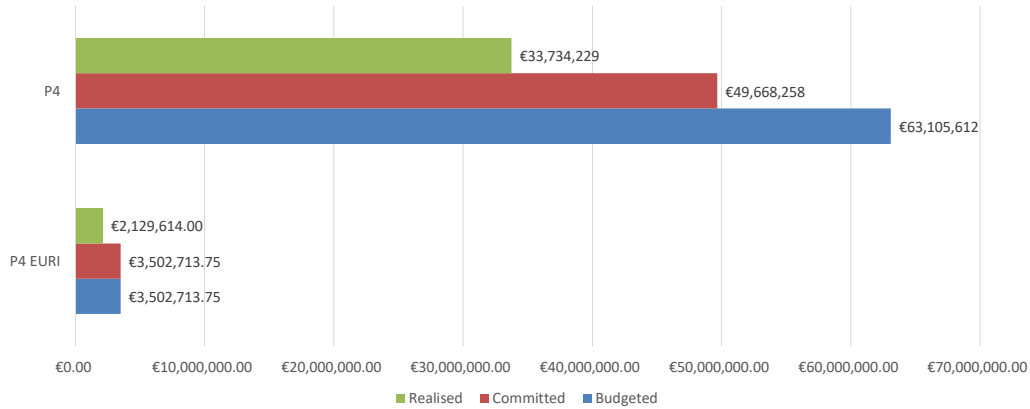


FA 3A: Improving competitiveness of primary producers

4

4

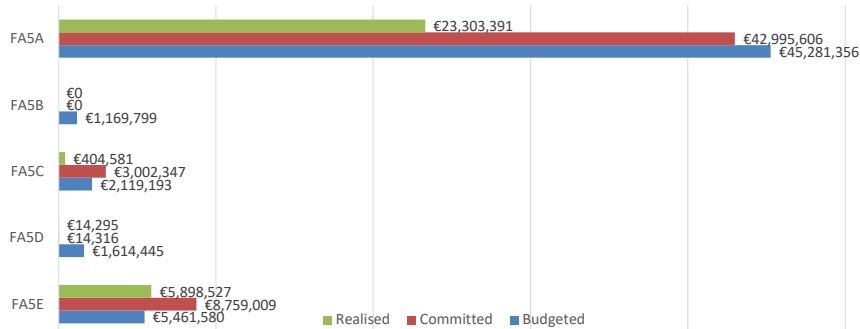
Priority 4- Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry



5

5

Priority 5- Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors



FA 5A: Increasing efficiency in water use by agriculture
 FA 5B: Increasing efficiency in energy use in agriculture and food processing
 FA 5C: Facilitating the supply and use of renewable sources of energy
 FA 5D: Reducing greenhouse gas and ammonia emissions from agriculture
 FA 5E: Fostering carbon conservation and sequestration in agriculture and forestry

6

6

Slide 6

SMO [@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL] Does FA5E Commitment include the 4.1M (50% of the 8.3M) under M8.5

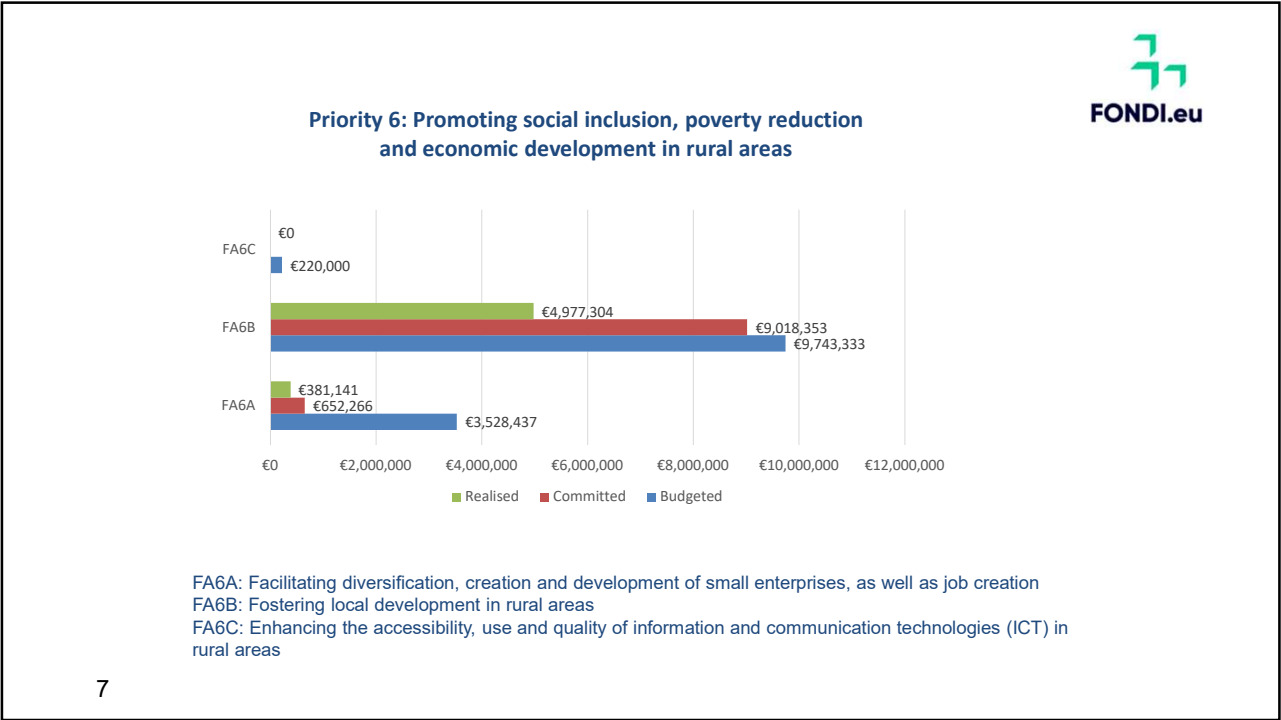
Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-04T18:19:12.952

TMaM0 0 It only includes actual commitments as per RD investment data report.

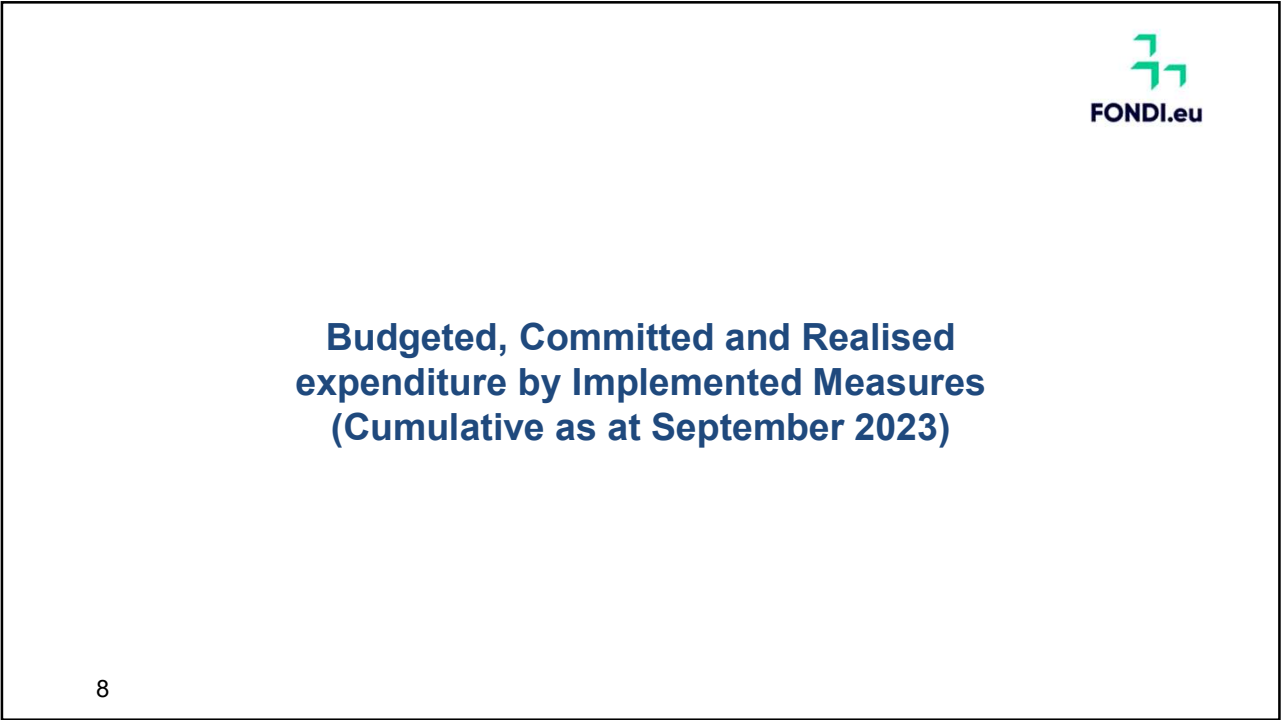
Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:15:46.212

SMO 1 ok

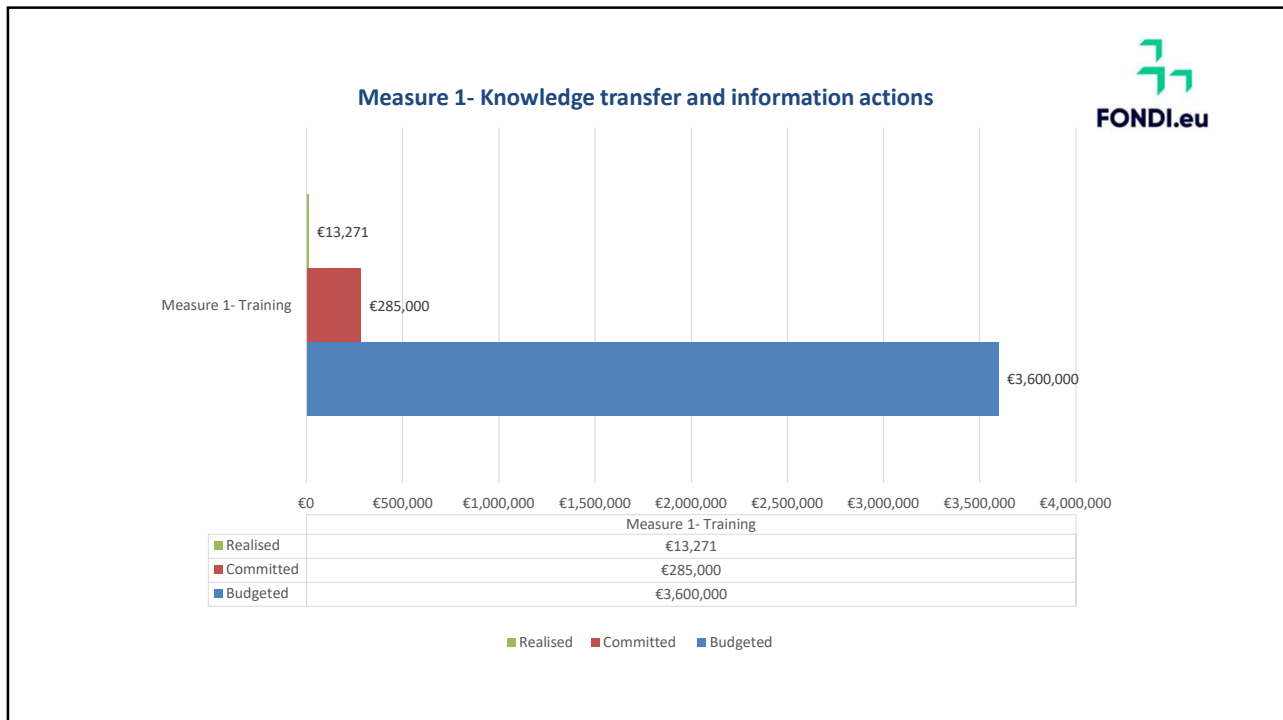
Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:32:30.307



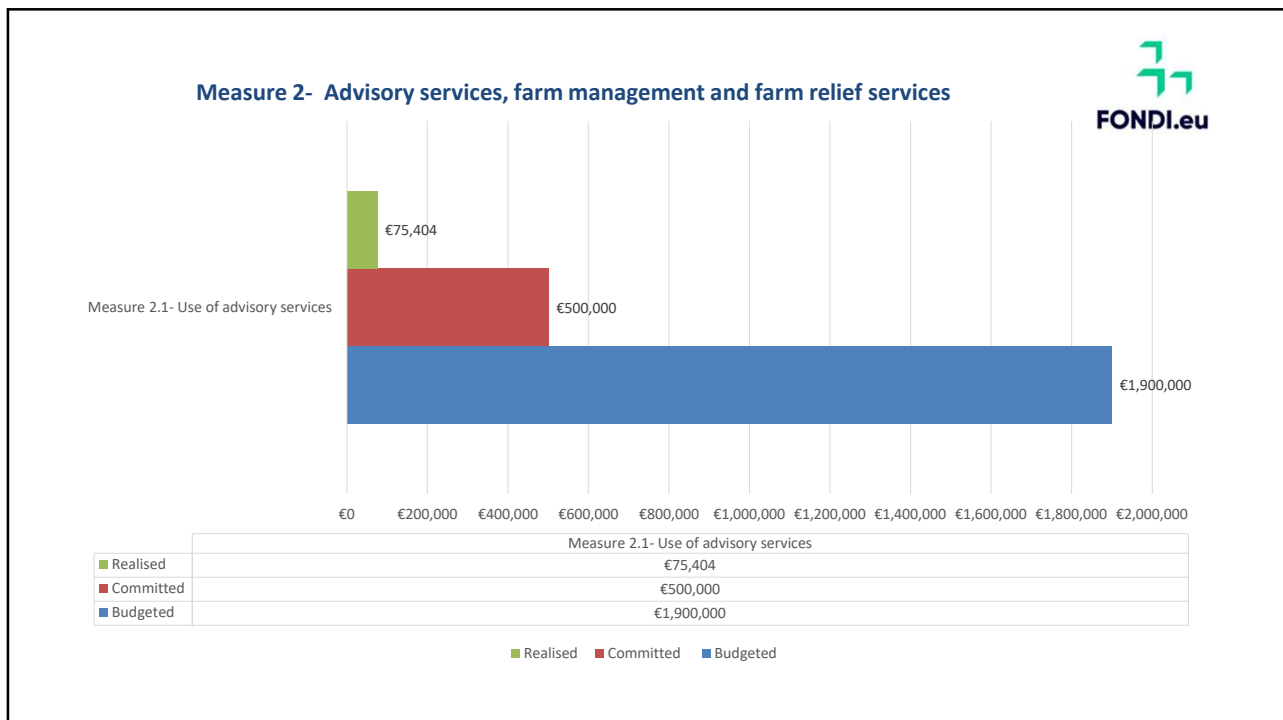
7



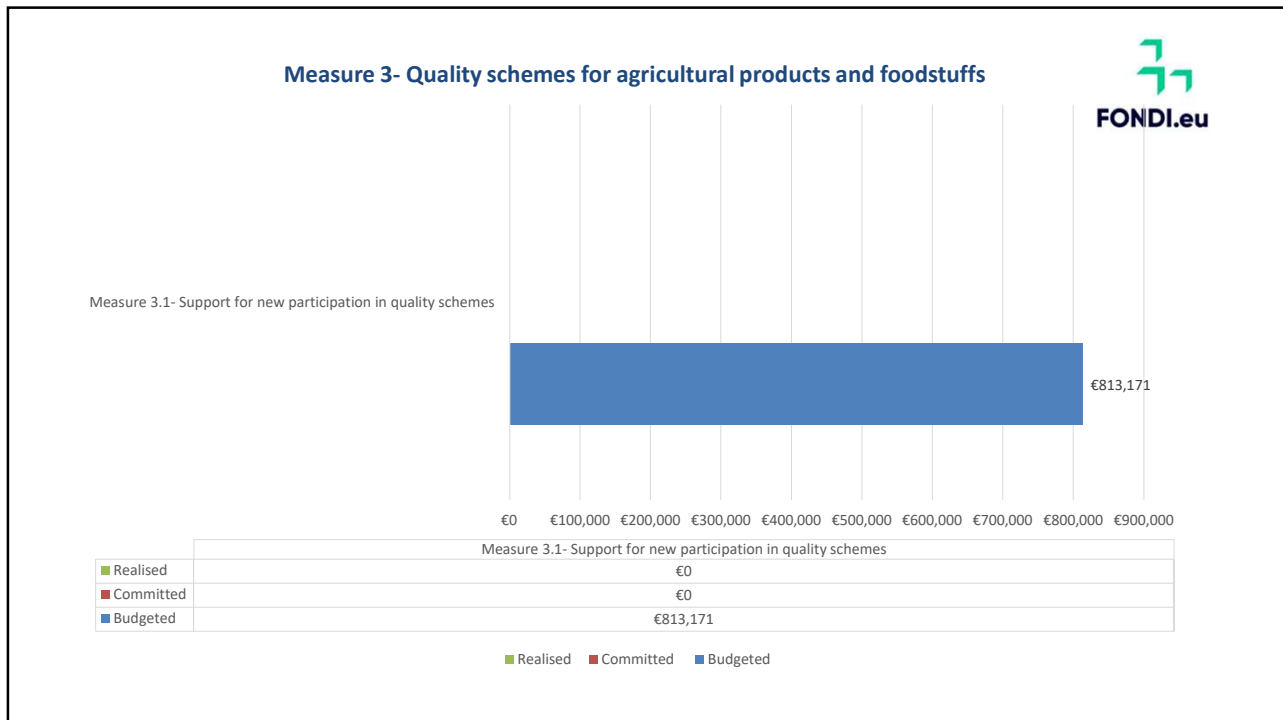
8



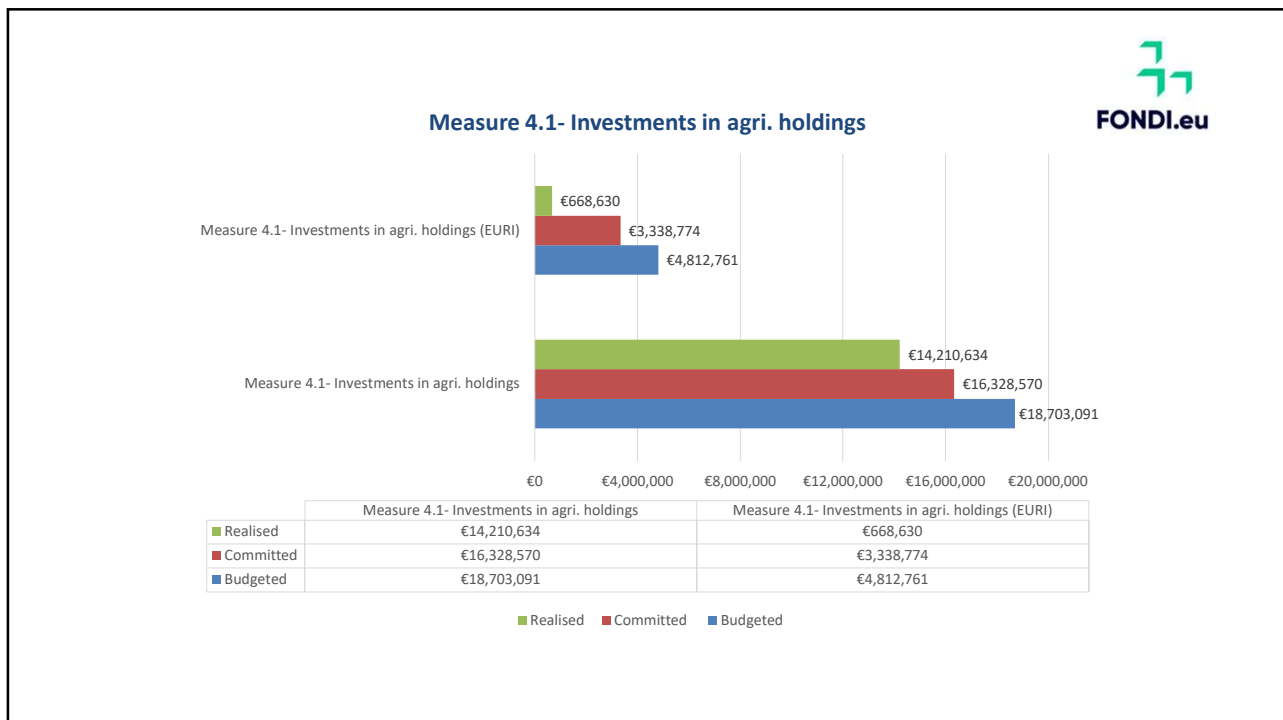
9



10

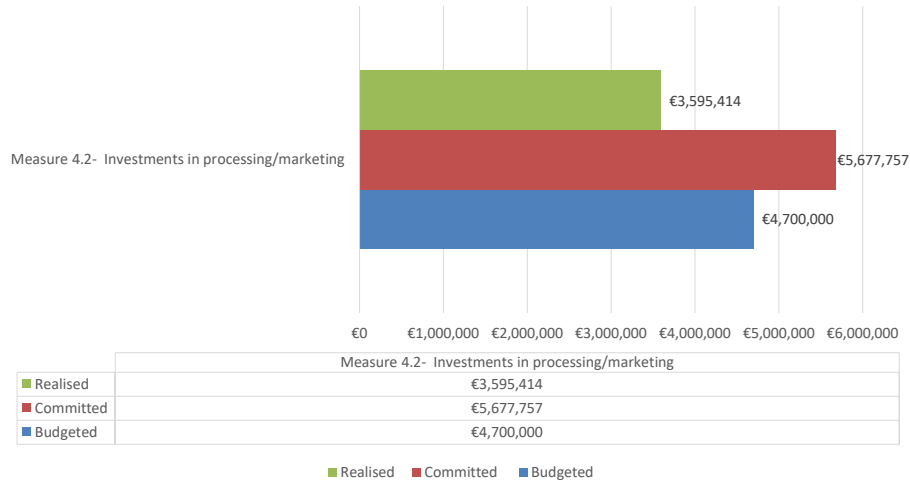


11



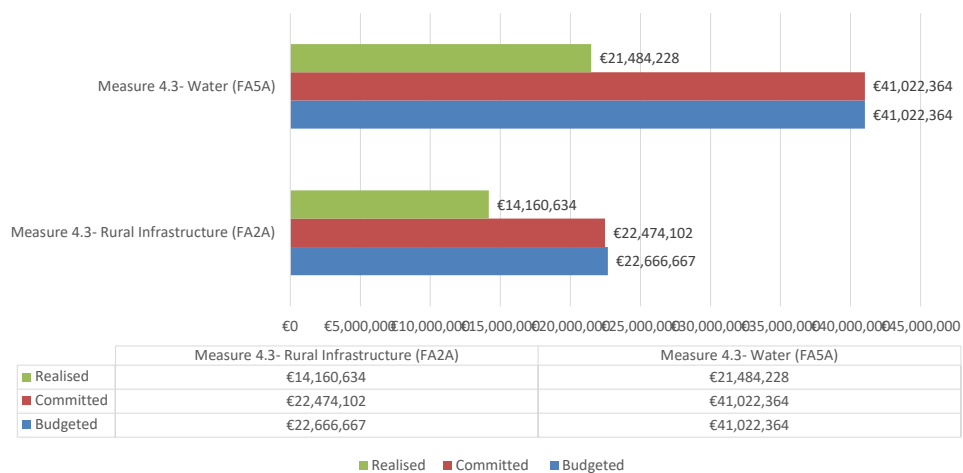
12

Measure 4.2- Investments in processing/marketing assets



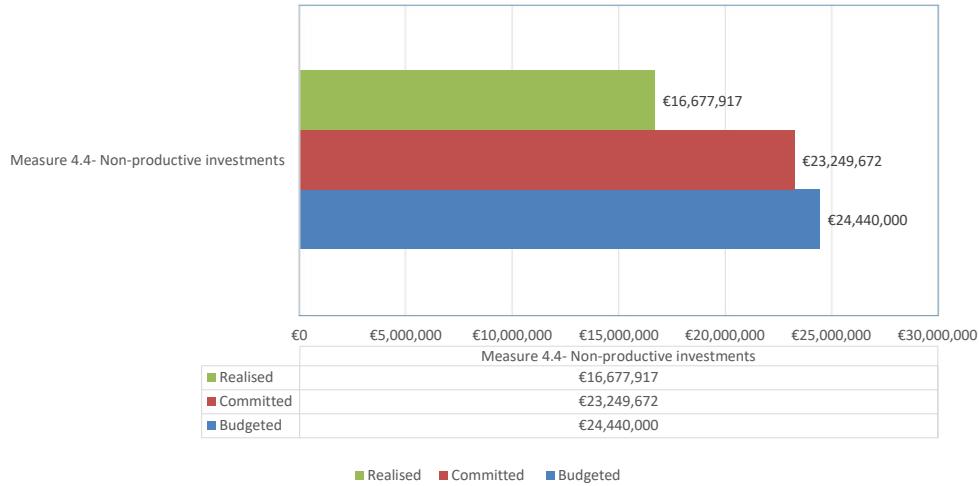
13

Measure 4.3- Support for investments in infrastructure related to development, modernisation or adaptation of agriculture and forestry



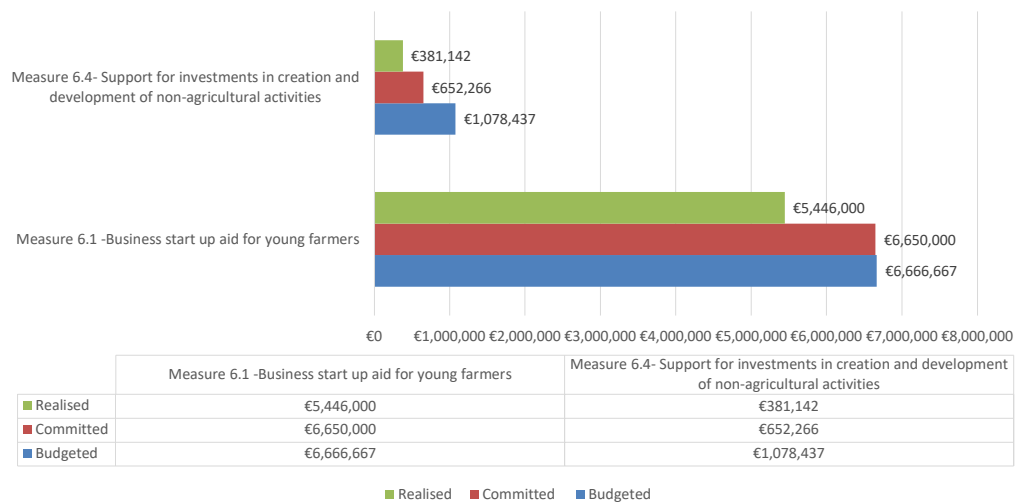
14

Measure 4.4- Non-productive investments



15

Measure 6- Farm and business development

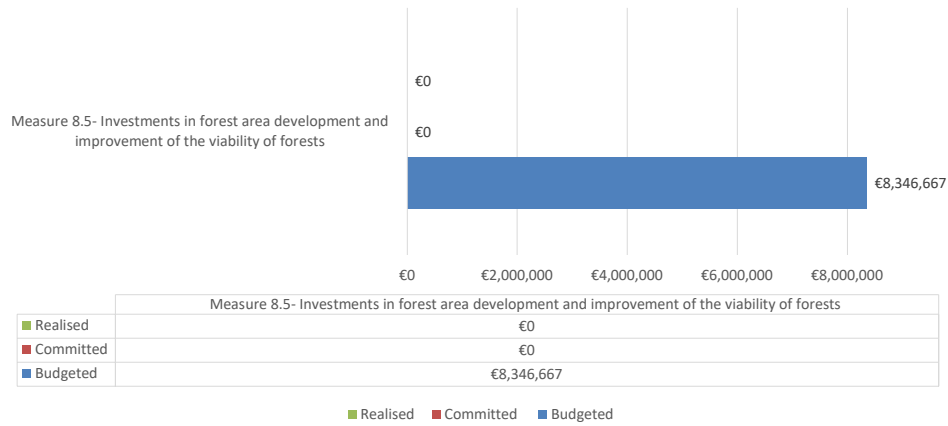


16

FSaM1

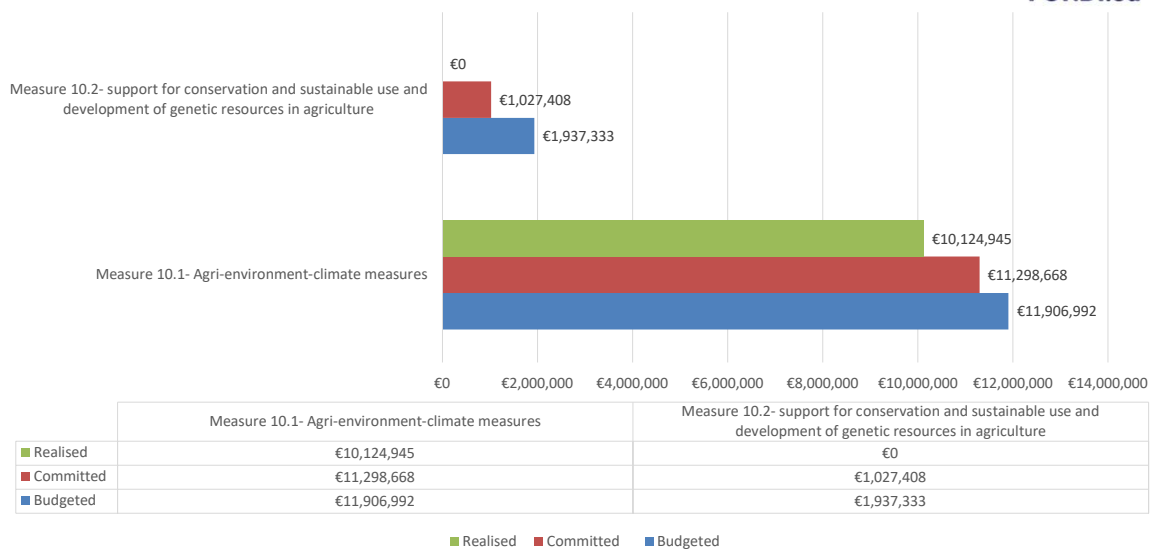


Measure 8- Investments in forest area development and improvement of the viability of forests



17

Measure 10- Agri-environment-climate



18

Slide 17

SM0 [@Farrugia Sharon at MEFL] Can we sort the garbled text in x axis? [@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL] this slide should be in main body of PPT correct (not hidden)?

Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:16:46.803

TMaM0 0 Slide moved, text fixed. Not sure why it was hidden, probably it was hidden for the March MC

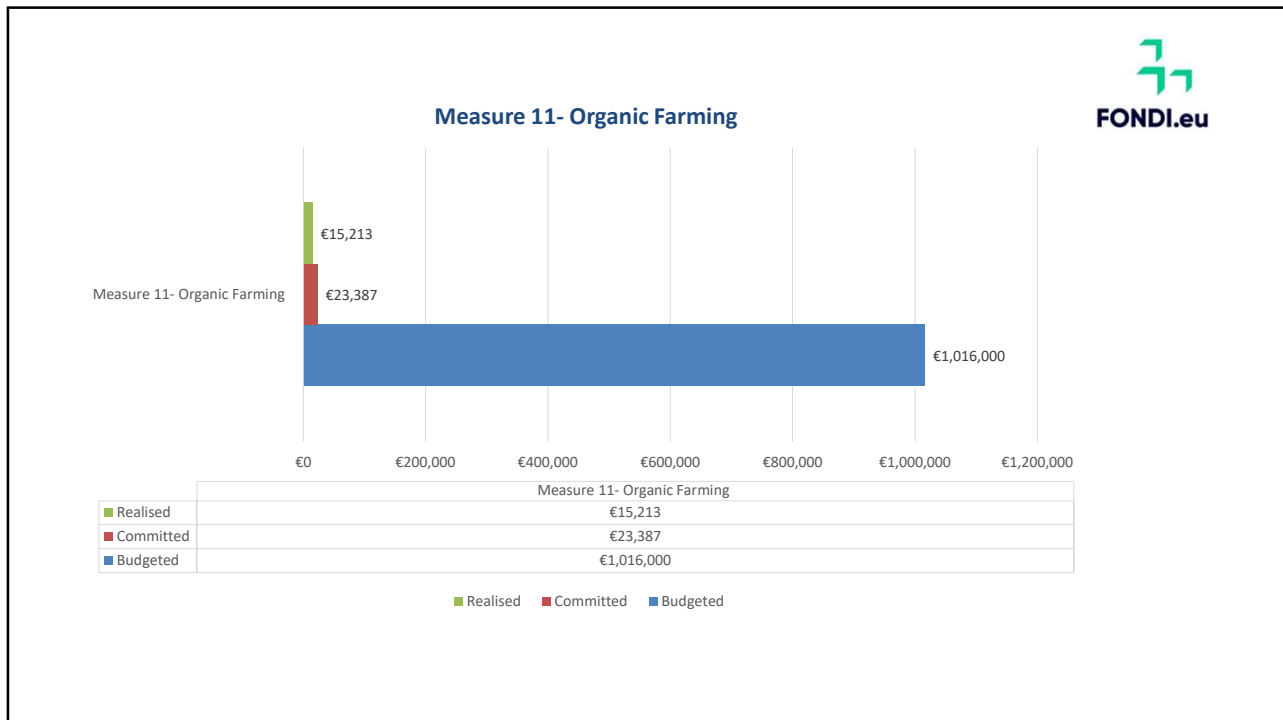
Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:51:48.124

FSaM1 Is this sorted [@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL] ghax mhux qed nifhem?

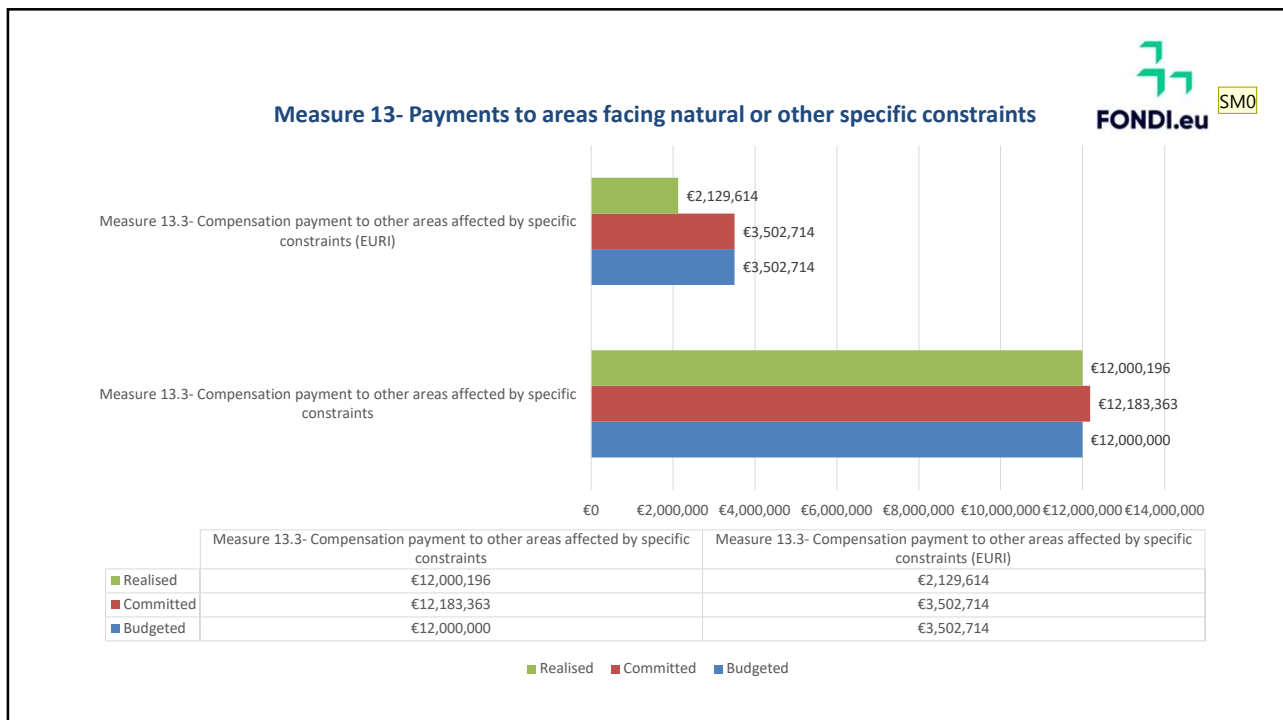
Farrugia Sharon at MEFL, 2023-10-05T04:18:50.502

TMaM1 0 Yes - slide was at the end of the ppt (for some unknown reason) and I have moved it in its correct place. Thanks

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-05T04:55:24.506



19



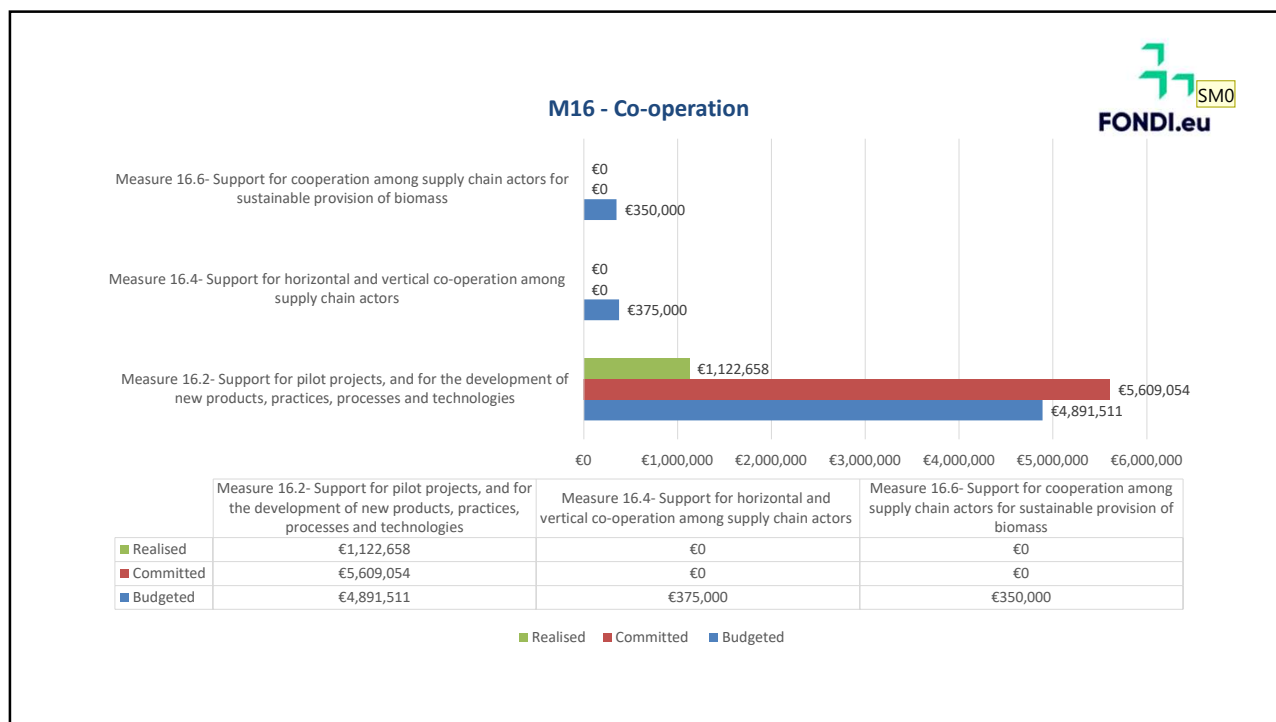
20

SMO [@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL] should this be in red i.e. work pending?

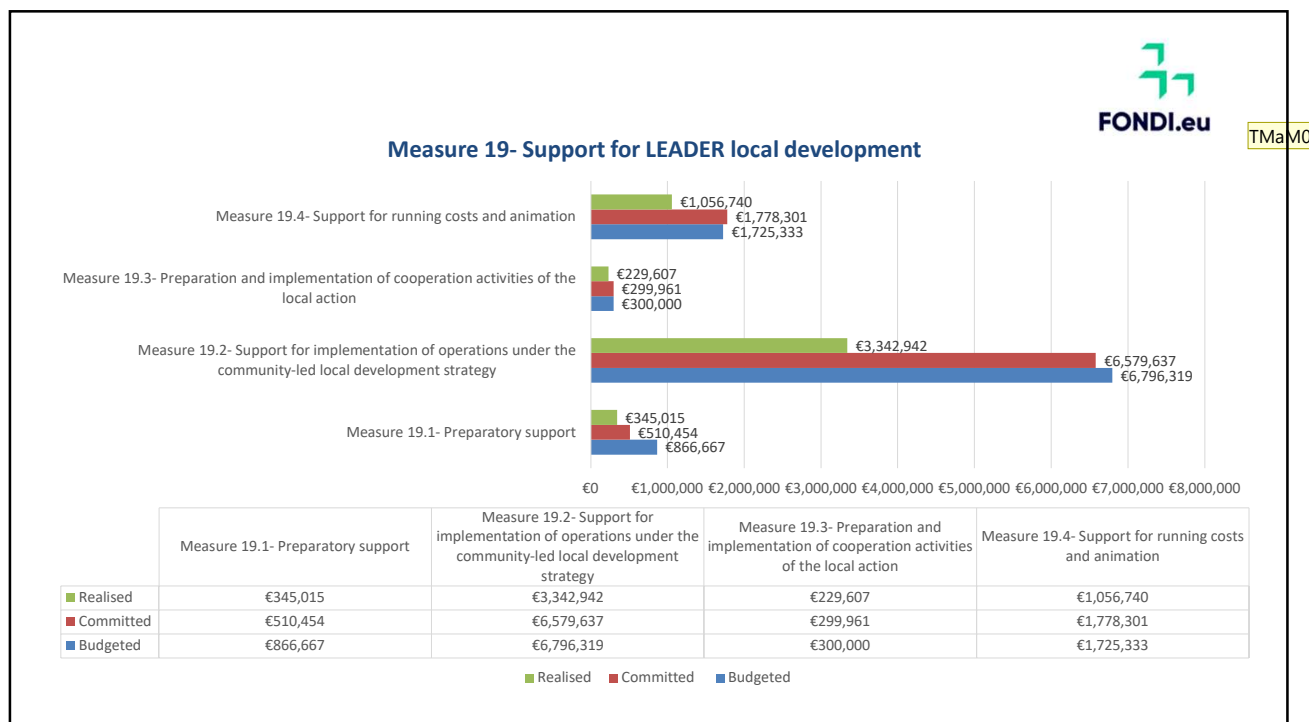
Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-04T18:38:10.636

TMaM0 0 This is in line with MG data. We can update M13 EURI as fully committed because we know that all the money will be used during the next campaign.

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:30:45.564



21



22

Slide 21

SM0 [@Agius Bradley at MEFL] Please insert number of valid M16 projects in notes section

Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-04T18:39:12.953

Slide 22

TMaM0 Formatting of horizontal axis to be fixed

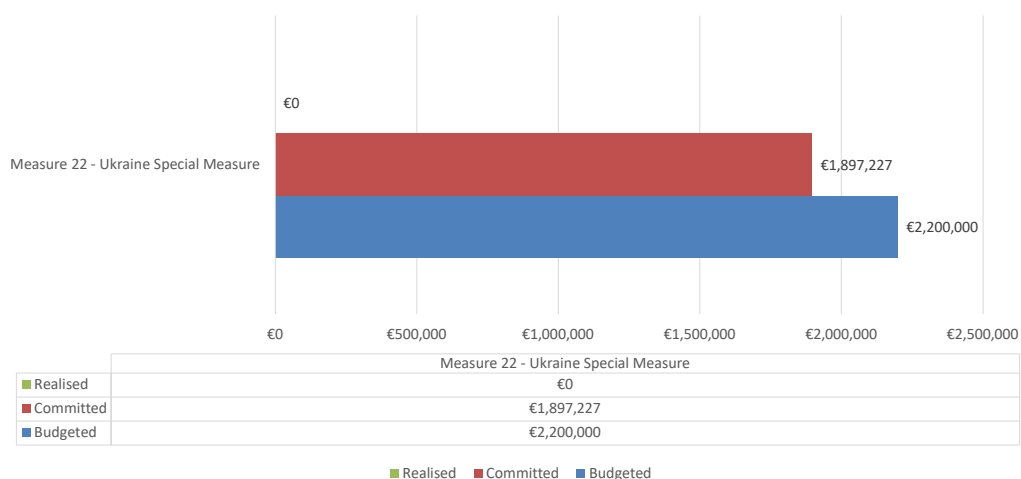
Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:35:48.190

Implementation of the Local Development Strategies (M19.2)

Local Action Group	M19.2 budget, including Transitional (€)	Committed (€)	% committed	Realised (€)	% Realised
GAL Xlokk	2,242,785.14	2,253,040	100.5%	1,263,489	56%
GAL Majjistrat	2,310,748.34	2,100,697	90.9%	973,226	42%
Gozo Action Group	2,242,785.14	2,258,99	99.2%	1,080,381	48%
Sub-Total	6,796,318.62	6,579,636	96.9%	3,317,093	49%

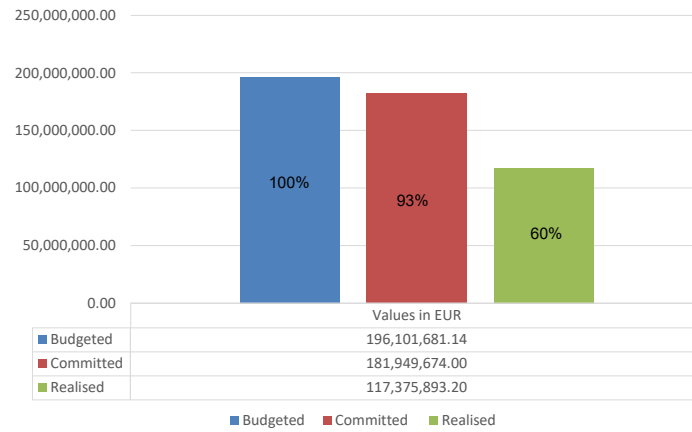
23

Measure 22- Exceptional temporary support to farmers and SMEs particularly affected by the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine



24

Implementation Status at RDP Level



25

Update on EURI Commitments

- Commitments were made in 2022, therefore realized expenditure is still gaining traction.
- For M4.1, four calls for applications were issued in 2022, and another call in 2023 that closed in September.

Measure	Allocated EURI budgets (RDP v6.1)	Committed (€)	Realised (€)
M4.1 – On farm Investments	4,812,761	3,338,773	635,128
M13.3 - ANC	3,502,713	3,502,713	2,839,485
M20 - TA	435,000.00	435,000.00	0

26

Update on Transitional commitments

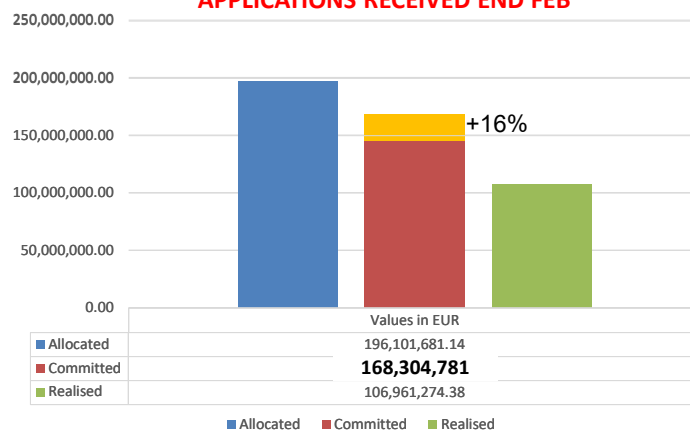
– Transitional funding for MT has been allocated as per the table below.



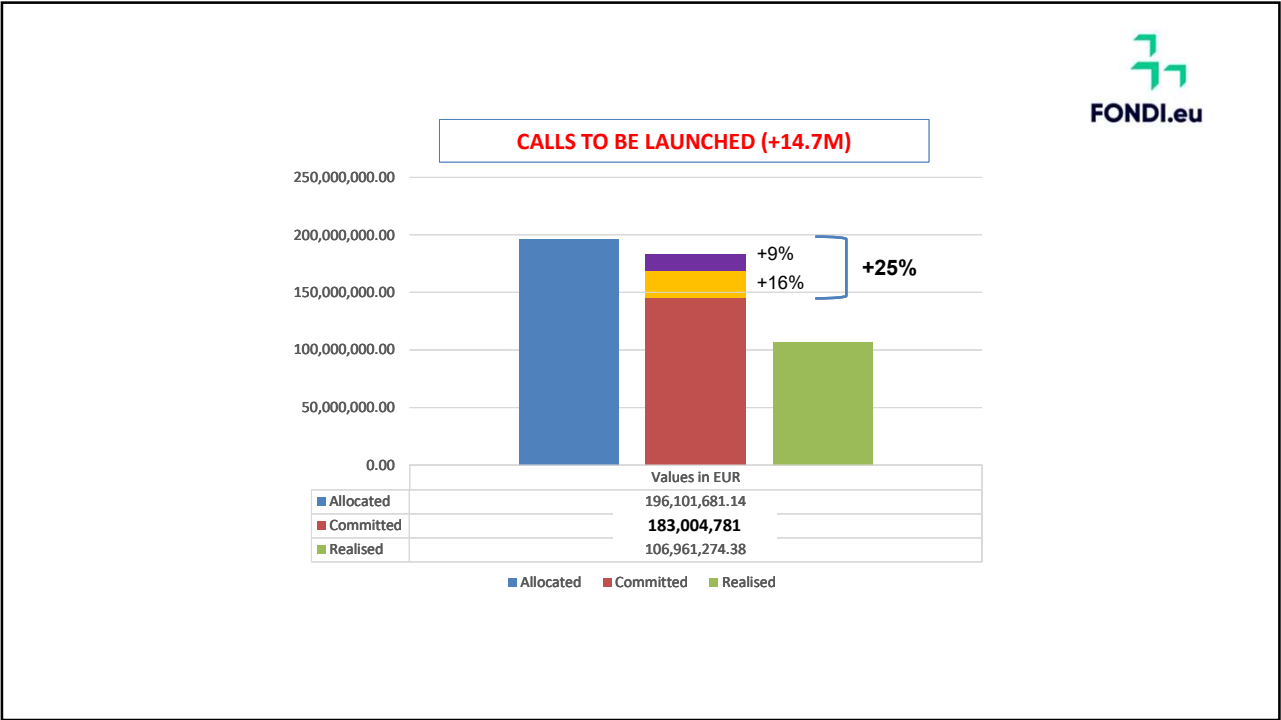
Sub-measure	Transitional Allocation (€)	Commitment (€)	Actions
M4.3 Water	24,001,636	24,001,636	Budget is now fully committed following the call for applications launched in 2022.
M4.3 Roads	9,742,323	10,129,670	Budget is now fully committed following the call for applications launched in 2022.
M4.4 Non-productive Investments	2,000,000	1,179,530	Measure launched in April 2023, 81 applications were received requesting c. €13M
M6.1 – Young Farmers	2,366,667	2,350,000	Fully committed
M8.5 - Forestry	4,846,667	4,846,667	Measure launched in April 2023, 5 applications were received requesting c. €20M
M10.1 - AECMs	5,333,333	4,725,009	Extension for RDP 14-20 commitments were issued.
M10.2- Genetic Resources	937,333	0	Measure to be re-launched in October 2023

27

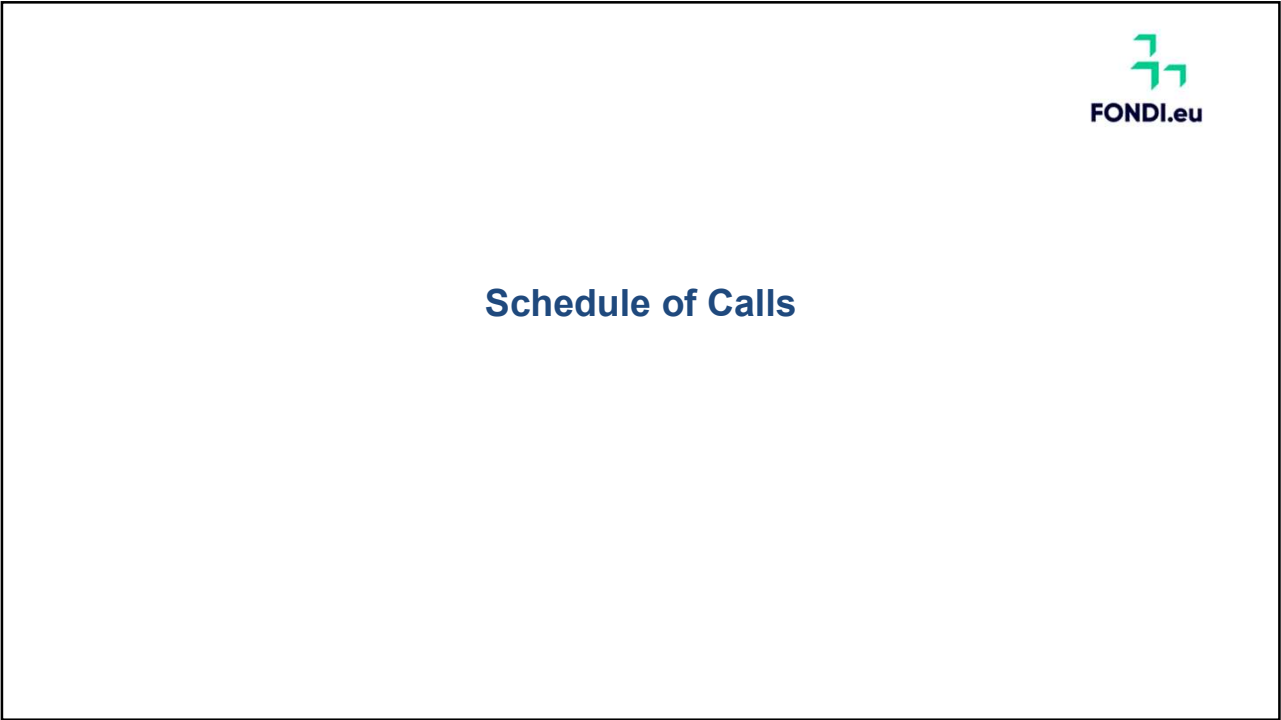
TO BE UPDATED: ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED END FEB



28



29



30

Schedule of Calls

- Applications for M4.1 were received between April and September 2023. A total of 57 applications were received, requesting €8.1M. Applications are currently being reviewed by the PSC.
- Applications for M4.4 were received between April and July 2023. A total of 81 applications were received, requesting €13.0M. Applications are currently being reviewed by the PSC.
- Applications for M8.5 were received between April and July 2023. A total of 5 applications were received, requesting €20.3M. Applications are at an advanced stage of review by the PSC.
- In addition, payments related to M22, impact of Ukraine invasion, will be paid this October.
- M10.2 was re-launched this October.

31

RDP Projects

Support for investments in agricultural holdings
Sub-Measure 4.1



32

RDP Projects

Support for investments in agricultural holdings
Sub-Measure 4.1

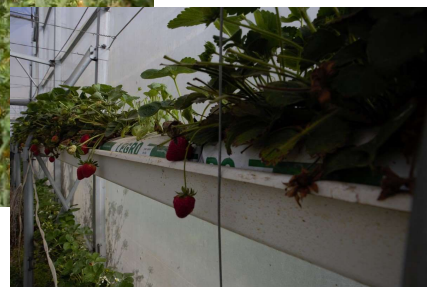


33

33

RDP Projects

Young Farmers
Sub-measure 6.1



34

RDP Projects

Investments in processing of agricultural products
Sub-Measure 4.2



35



RDP Projects

LEADER
Sub-measure 19.2



36

Forecasts of N+3 and Performance Framework Milestones

37

N+3 assessment 2023

MT is expected to achieve the N+3 target for 2023.

–Almost 60% of the 2023 target has been utilised, being €7,474,383.64 out of €13,027,128.18 (EAFRD share only).

–However, in the coming days, payments of circa €10M will be disbursed.

–This disbursement, along with other disbursements to be made by the end of 2023, will give an important roll over of disbursement to the N+3 target for 2024, which is the steepest target in terms of N+3 throughout the lifetime of the programming period.

–N+3 for EURI's target of 2024 has already been achieved.

38

Performance Framework (including Alternative Indicators)



Priority	Indicator	RDP 2025 Target	Indicative Progress (Commitments)	Indicative Percentage progress (Commitments)
2	Public expenditure (€)	43,471,358.00	42,860,679	99%
2	Number of holdings supported	261	287	110%
2	Surface area upgraded farm access roads (sqm)	460,000.00	258,878	56%
3	Public expenditure (€)	8,604,879.34	6,847,254	80%
3	Number of holdings supported (M4.2)	16	21	131%
4	Public expenditure (€)	66,608,326.52	49,668,258	75%
4	Area under specific constraints (ha)	9,312.10	9,905	106.37%
4	Number of operations supported by M04	203	187	92%
5	Public expenditure (€)	55,646,373.00	46,012,269	83%
5	Agricultural and forest land (ha)	962.00	1,645.28	171.03%
6	Total Public Expenditure (€)	13,491,771.00	9,670,618	72%
6	Population covered by LAG	268,733	268,733.00	100.00%

39



Update on the progress on targets in the Indicator Plan (Chapter 11 of the RDP)

40

Progress on targets in the Indicator Plan (Chapter 11 of the RDP)

SM0



Priority	Focus Area	Indicator	Target 2025	Achievement (based on commitment)
P1	1A	T1: percentage of expenditure under Articles 14, 15 and 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 in relation to the total expenditure for the RDP (focus area 1A)	6.38	3.31
P1	1C	T3: Total number of participants trained under Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 (focus area 1C)	7,200.00	1045
P3	3A	R4 / T6: percentage of agricultural holdings receiving support for participating in quality schemes, local markets and short supply circuits, and producer groups/organisations (focus area 3A)	1.36	0.01
P5	5B	T15: Total investment for energy efficiency (€) (focus area 5B)	759,597.00	0.00
P5	5D	R16 / T17: percentage of LU concerned by investments in live-stock management in view of reducing GHG and/or ammonia emissions (focus area 5D)	16.09	9.6
P6	6A	T20: Jobs created in supported projects (focus area 6A)	28	0

41

Reduction of administrative burden on beneficiaries



Throughout 2023, there were ongoing efforts to simplify and harmonise the application format and process. These efforts also reflect considerations from previous Evaluations.

- M4.1 and LEADER 14 – 20 calls issued in Q3 2023 already used a simplified and harmonised version of the application
- Further efforts are ongoing to simplify and harmonise all application forms

Online system enhancements

- Completion and submission of applications, Project Progress Reports, Project Closure Reports and Change Requests will (also) be received online starting as early as this calendar year.

TMaM0

SM2M1

42

Slide 41

SM0 [@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL] Dawn saru xi updates please?
Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-02T13:37:15.849

TMaM0 0 No, I just check the AIR to see if there are changes. There is a discrepancy for T3.
Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T13:52:54.180

Slide 42

TMaM0 [@Piscopo Joanna at MEFL]
Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T10:39:07.574

PM0 0 [@Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL] done
Piscopo Joanna at MEFL, 2023-10-02T10:54:28.229

TMaM1 To be removed and inserted into AOB
Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T15:43:32.904

SM2 [@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL] as discussed with PS section to be shifted to AOB. [@Piscopo Joanna at MEFL] Perhaps we have 2 slides dedicated to the 15,000 call in terms of simplification etc. This will be used for AOB and not within this PPT. This PPT covers RDP 14 20 and PS wants to keep these separate.
Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-02T20:43:59.195

TMaM2 0 A separate presentation has been created.
Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:39:03.851



Reduction of administrative burden on beneficiaries

Ongoing efforts to simplify and harmonise the application format and process

- LEADER 14 – 20 calls issued in Q3 2023 already used a simplified and harmonised version of the application
- Further efforts are ongoing to simplify and harmonise all RDP and CAP SP application forms
- All CAP SP applications will be issued and be received through an online system

Online system enhancements

- Completion and submission of applications, Project Progress Reports, Project Closure Reports and Change Requests will (also) be received online as from later this year.

TMaM0

43



Reduction of administrative burden on beneficiaries

Enhancing the use of simplified cost options under the CAP SP

- Use of a draft budget system for the On-Farm Productive Investment Measure for small projects up to EUR 15K public eligible amount
- Mandatory use to cover overheads, travel, per diem, staff costs and Technical Assistance across the board
- Use of standard unit costs and flat rates to cover the administrative costs surrounding the LEADER programme

TMaM0

44

Slide 43

TMaM0 [@Piscopo Joanna at MEFL]

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T10:39:07.574

PM0 0 [@Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL] done

Piscopo Joanna at MEFL, 2023-10-02T10:54:28.229

SM0 1 I am deleting this slide since it appears a replica of the previous slide (?). Thank you [@Piscopo Joanna at MEFL]

Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-02T13:41:58.250

TMaM0 2 I had split them up in 2 since there is too much text on one slide.

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T14:03:19.857

Slide 44

TMaM0 [@Piscopo Joanna at MEFL]

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T10:39:07.574

PM0 0 [@Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL] done

Piscopo Joanna at MEFL, 2023-10-02T10:54:28.229



Reporting and Evaluation Activities

45



Annual Implementation Report 2022

- The Annual Implementation Report covering implementation year 2022 was drafted by the Managing Authority and submitted to the European Commission by the end of June 2023.
- This AIR was approved by the European Commission in July 2023.

46

Evaluation 2014 – 2020



SM0

- During the Monitoring Committee Meeting held in March 2023, evaluators presented two Thematic Evaluations related to Soil – Erosion and Management and LEADER.
- Work is underway on another Thematic Evaluation on Biodiversity, as well as an ad-hoc report covering secondary contributions to Focus Areas.

47

Indicative Thematic Evaluation plan up to 2026

TMaM0

Indicative submission date (draft version)

Thematic Evaluation: Young Farmers	PUBLISHED
Thematic Evaluation: Soil – Erosion and Management (FA4C)	PUBLISHED
Thematic Evaluation - Leader	Q4 2023
Thematic Evaluation: Biodiversity (FA4A)	Q4 2023
Thematic Evaluation: Water (FA5A)	Q4 2023
Thematic Evaluation: Competitiveness (FA2A)	Q4 2023
Thematic Evaluation: Lifelong learning and vocational training (FA1C)	December 2024
Thematic Evaluation: Participation in quality schemes and processing (FA3A)	2025
Thematic Evaluation: Energy Efficiency (FA5B)	2025
Thematic Evaluation: Renewable Energy (FA5C)	2026



48

Slide 47

SM0 [@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL] What is ongoing at this stage please?

Will Evals be joining the MC?

Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-02T13:43:29.240

TMaM0 0 Yes we have an item on the agenda but we never discussed what they need to present. Alison has asked, I have not replied.

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T14:04:08.507

Slide 48

TMaM0 Is this information that Alison should provide?

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-02T10:44:35.916

SM0 0 Yes we should invite Alison I believe we have already done so.
[@Tanti Marilyn at MEFL]

Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-02T13:45:33.711

SM0 1 I am hiding this slide so that we do not duplicate

Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-02T13:45:54.233

TMaM0 2 Presentation has been prepared by evaluators.

Tanti Marilyn at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:44:11.703



Communication and Events

49



Participation in Events by the Managing Authority and the National Rural Network Malta (NRNM)

50

Participation during Festa Gheneb, 16-17 Sep 2023



51

51

Information Sessions – NRN



- The NRN assisted in the organisation of various information sessions in order to disseminate information concerning various RDP measures.
- Two sessions were held with regards to **SMO** M4.1, M4.4 and M8.5 in March 2023
- Another 2 sessions related to direct payments were held August 2023.



52

52

Slide 52

SMO [@Agius Bradley at MEFL] Was it only 2 sessions here?
Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:04:54.365

AMO 0 [@Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL] 2 for non IACS and 2 by ARPA
for direct payments
Agius Bradley at MEFL, 2023-10-04T20:09:26.662

SMO 1 So was this 4 or combined?
Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-05T21:36:10.495

Managing Authority website



- In January 2023, Malta launched a new website FONDI.EU



53

53

Communication tools

SMO

- SMSs used to inform registered farmers about new calls, information sessions and project deadlines;
- Info sessions
- Website, social media platforms and one-to-one meetings (virtual or in-person);
- BiedjaCam app;
- Periodical NRN newsletter



54

54

Slide 54

SMO [@Farrugia Jordi 1 at MEFL] When was thi slast issued please?

Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:06:02.165

FMO 0 [@Scicluna Kenneth at MEFL] Jan 23, all can be accessed from here:

<https://fondi.eu/networks/national-rural-network-2014-2020/na>

Farrugia Jordi 1 at MEFL, 2023-10-04T19:35:23.754

Press Releases

Measure 4.3 – Water Water Services Corporation

PR231053
05/07/2023

STQARRIJA MILL-MINISTERU GHALL-AMBIJENT, L-ENERGIJA U L-INTRAPRIŻA U MIS-SEGRETARJAT PARLAMENTARI GHALL-FONDI EWROPEJ

Espansjoni tan-netwerk tan-New Water fin-Nofsinhar ta' Malta biex tissahhah il-provvista u titnaqqas il-pessjoni mill-użu tal-groundwater

Il-progett, li hu kofinanzjat mill-Unjoni Ewropea, jindirizza erba' aspetti ewlenin biex tissahhah l-infrastruttura tan-New Water

Investiment ta' €24.5 miljun mill-Korporazzjoni ghas-Servizzi tal-Ilma (WSC), kofinanzjat mill-Unjoni Ewropea, se jwassal għall-estensjoni fin-netwerk ta' New Water fir-regjuni tan-Nofsinhar u tal-Lbiċ ta' Malta, kif ukoll zieda fl-ammont.

L-investiment thabbar mill-Ministru għall-Ambjent, L-Energija u L-Intrapriża Miriam Dalli u mis-Segretarju Parlamentari għall-Fondi Ewropej, Chris Bonett, waqt zjara fl-impjant tat-Trattament tal-Wastewater f'Ta' Barkat, flimkien mal-Kap Eżekuttiv tal-WSC, Karl Cilia.

L-investiment multimiljunarju jikkumplementa l-impenn tal-gvern biex titnaqqas il-pessjoni mill-użu tal-groundwater. L-użu mill-gdid tal-ilma huwa parti mill-istrategija tal-ekonomija ċirkolari fejn ir-riżorsi jergghu jintużaw.

55



55

Press Releases

Measure 4.2 Delicata Winery

PR230875
08/06/2023

STQARRIJA MILL-MINISTERU GHALL-AGRIKOLTURA, IS-SAJD U D-DRITTIJET TAL-ANNIMALI U S-SEGRETARJAT PARLAMENTARI GHALL-FONDI EWROPEJ Inawgurat investiment ta' €2.2 miljun minn Delicata Winery

Il-Ministru għall-Agricoltura, is-Sajd u d-Drittijiet tal-Annimali Anton Refalo, flimkien mas-Segretarju Parlamentari għall-Fondi Ewropej Chris Bonett, inawguraw investiment ta' aktar minn €2.2 miljun, minn Delicata Winery.

Il-progett, li hu ko-finanzjat minn fondi Ewropej, jikkonsisti f'makkinarju tal-aqwa kwalità u li minnu jgħaddu l-fliexken tal-ħġieg qabel jiġu mimlija bl-inbid.

Waqt l-inawgurazzjoni ġew spjegati l-benefiċċji ta' dan l-investiment, li hu meqjus bħala wieħed ambjentalment sostenibbli u li jopera b'mod effiċjenti fl-enerġija. Fost l-oħrajn, l-investiment jinkludi sistema fotovoltajġa u l-insulazzjoni tal-maħżen tal-inbid fl-fliexken.

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Press Articles



EUROPEAN UNION

EU funding opportunities for Agricultural and Rural Development

April 13, 2023



European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development
Europe Investing in Rural Areas

■ **Aqra bil-Malti**

For an island state such as Malta, the agriculture and rural sector is essential for its sustainability. This was made evident during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, which brought about significant disruptions to food imports and exports, globally. This crisis highlighted more than ever the need to invest in the agriculture and rural sector to ensure Malta and Gozo's food security.

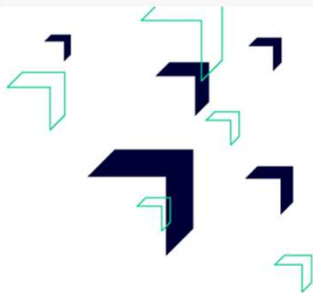
Since joining the European Union, Malta has benefited from several EU funds that are specifically earmarked towards investing in the agriculture and rural sector. Primarily, these funds aim to ensure that the sector is profitable and sustainable for farmers while promoting environmentally friendly farming practices and other conservation operations with respect to water and soil.

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Thank you for your attention.



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