

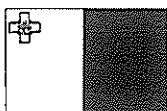
ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2012

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FUND:	European Refugee Fund (ERF)
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY:	Funds and Programmes Division, Office of the Prime Minister
YEAR COVERED:	2012



**General Programme Solidarity & Management of Migration Flows
European Refugee Fund (ERF)**

Co-financing rate: 75% EU Fund; 25% Beneficiary's Funds

Sustainable Management of Migration Flows



List of Contents

List of Acronyms	3
1. General Rules for Selection of Projects to be financed under the Programme	4
1.1 Introduction	4
1.2 Target Groups	4
1.3 Project Selection Process	5
1.5 Eligibility Criteria	5
1.6 Selection (Award) Criteria	6
2. Changes in the Management & Control Systems	7
3. Actions to be supported by the Programme under the Priorities chosen	8
3.1 State of play on the implementation of key strategic objectives at the national level	8
3.2 Revision of the Annual Programme	11
3.2 Actions implementing priority 1	11
3.3 Actions implementing priority 2	24
3.4 Actions implementing priority 3	24
4. Technical Assistance	25
4.1 Purpose of the Technical Assistance	25
4.2 Expected quantified results	26
4.3 Visibility of EC Funding	26
5. Other Operations – Emergency Measures	27
6. Financing Plan	35

Acronyms

AA	Audit Authority
AFM	Armed Forces of Malta
AP	Annual Programme
CA	Certifying Authority
CEAS	Common European Asylum System
CFP	Call for Proposals
EC	European Commission
ERF	European Refugee Fund
EU	European Union
IAID	Internal Audit & Investigations Department
IF	European Fund for the Integration of Third-Country Nationals
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IT	Information Technology
MAP	Multi-Annual Programme
MCS	Management & Control Systems
MEEF	Ministry for Education, Employment & the Family
MFA	Ministry for Foreign Affairs
MFEI	Ministry of Finance, Economy & Investment
MJHA	Ministry for Justice & Home Affairs
MS	Member State
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
PSC	Projects Selection Committee
RA	Responsible Authority
RF	European Return Fund
SP	Special Priority
TA	Technical Assistance
TCNs	Third-Country Nationals
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. GENERAL RULES FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE PROGRAMME

1.1 Introduction

The **European Refugee Fund (ERF)** aims to support and encourage the efforts made by the Member States in receiving, and in bearing the consequences of receiving, refugees and displaced persons, taking account of Community legislation on those matters through co-financing of actions.

The Annual Programme 2012 for Malta is being proposed by the Funds and Programmes Division, Office of the Prime Minister, within which the Responsible Authority (RA) of this Fund is situated, has been provided with a provisional allocation amounting to €1,185,203. The RA has carried out a number of consultative meetings with the interested stakeholders in order to determine the actions that will be presented under this Annual Programme. After the submission and approval of the Annual Programme by the European Commission, the RA will be issuing a call for proposals in order to determine the specific projects that will be implemented.

According to the Multi-Annual Programme it was foreseen that all three Priorities would be addressed in 2012. However, considering the national context and its priorities, and the budget available, the Responsible Authority is proposing addressing actions under Priority 1 of the Multi Annual programme, addressing various specific priorities under that Priority.

In fact, this year, Malta will be targeting Priority 1 through various actions focusing on the different aspects of reception which include:

1. Increasing capacity and renovation of accommodation centres;
2. Provision of material aid in the centre;
3. Continued provision of medical care;
4. Enhancement of assistance provided to vulnerable persons;
5. Continued provision of educational services; and
6. Provision of cultural orientation classes.

1.2 Target Groups

As per Article 6 of Council Decision 573/2007/EC, the target groups of the actions are:

- (a) any third-country national or stateless person having the status defined by the Geneva Convention and who is permitted to reside as a refugee in one of the Member States;
- (b) any third-country national or stateless person enjoying a form of subsidiary protection within the meaning of Directive 2004/83/EC;
- (c) any third-country national or stateless person who has applied for one of the forms of protection described in points (a) and (b);
- (d) any third-country national or stateless person enjoying temporary protection within the meaning of Directive 2001/55/EC;
- (e) any third-country national or stateless person who is being or has been resettled in a Member State.

1.3 Project Selection Process

The general rules for selecting the projects to be financed under the Annual Programme 2012 of the Fund follow the minimum standards set out in Council Decision No. 573/2007/EC. The potential beneficiaries will be informed about the selection criteria and timetables according to which the actions will be funded.

The Responsible Authority (RA) shall steer the project selection process. A Project Selection Committee (PSC) shall be set up to support the RA in this task. The PSC shall be chaired by a member of the RA and shall include also external (to RA) experts. The RA shall also provide the secretariat to the PSC. All members of the PSC shall have voting rights (apart from secretariat) and the PSC shall draw up its own terms of reference (ToRs). The main function of the PSC shall be the evaluation of project proposals. The PSC shall, in the first instance, confirm the eligibility of the proposals received (according to the eligibility criteria) and then proceed to evaluate the eligible proposals according the selection criteria and rank the projects according to the marks obtained. Projects must obtain at least 50% of the marks in order to be considered for funding. The RA shall then proceed to sign Grant Agreements with the selected applicants. In cases where the proposals exceed the budget available, the RA shall co-finance the highest ranking projects with the rest remaining on a reserve list which may be activated should funding become available.

For the purpose of this Programme, the selection of projects will follow the awarding body method¹. The RA shall issue an open call for proposals. Where possible the RA shall issue a pre-announcement before the call in order to allow sufficient time for stakeholders to mobilise resources. Both the pre-announcement as well as the call itself shall be published through a press release, on the media as well as on the RA's website. The open call shall be accompanied with Guidance Notes and an Application Form and the RA shall also hold information sessions for potential applicants. The applications received shall be assessed in line with the relevant criteria.

1.4 Eligibility Criteria

A proposal must meet all the criteria listed below in order to be eligible under this call for proposals.

1. The application must be submitted by the deadline defined in the call;
2. The application submitted must be complete;
3. The applicant and its partner/s shall be an eligible applicant (i.e. national public or local authorities, established non-governmental organisations (NGOs), public or private bodies, universities or research centres or international organisations)²;
4. The applicant and its partner/s must declare to implement the project respecting the non profit principle as laid down in Article 14 (2) of the basic act;
5. The proposed action has a duration that does not exceed the implementation period of AP 2012 i.e. completed by 30th June, 2014;
6. The objective(s) of the proposed action correspond(s) to the relevant objectives defined under the actions 1 to 6 of the 2012 ERF Annual Programme;
7. Provide proof of co-financing³;

¹ Article 7 of Commission Decision 2008/22/EC (ERF)

² Further details will be outlined in the Guidance Notes and the call for proposals

³ In case of national public bodies this is provided by the central budgetary authority. Details will be provided in the call for proposals in the case of other organisations.

8. Address at least one of the indicators in the relative key action of the ERF Multi Annual Programme; and
 9. The action does not involve state aid.

1.6 Selection (Award) Criteria

Projects that meet the eligibility criteria shall proceed to the selection/award phase and will be assessed and ranked on the basis of predefined selection/award criteria. Proposals must obtain at least 50% of the total available points in order to qualify for funding. Funding will be awarded to proposals with the highest scores in order of merit to the extent of available budget for this call. Any projects that make the pass-mark but for which there is no budget available, will be placed on a reserve list which will be activated should additional budget become available throughout the life-time of the Programme.

Timeframe	Tasks	Proposed Timescales/ Completion dates
Stage 1: Programme Launch and Application Process	Call for applications	Q1 2012*
	Information Sessions & Information Campaigns	Q1 2012
	Deadline for applications	Q2 2012
	Appraisal of applications	Q2 2012
	Approval of projects by RA	Q2 2012
	Grant Agreements signed	Q3 2012
Stage 2: Project Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of activities • Monitoring by RA • Submission of request for payment forms • Management verifications including on the spot checks • Submission of interim/progress reports 	Q3 2012 till end Q2 2014
Stage 3: Project Completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final reporting on all implementation and financial aspects of the project • Submission of final report to RA 	Q3 2014
End of Eligibility period for selected projects		30 th June, 2014

**This is a proposed timeframe. The open call for project proposals is subject to formal approval of the Annual Programme 2012 by the European Commission.*

2. CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEMS (if appropriate)

Not Appropriate

3. ACTIONS TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE PROGRAMME UNDER THE PRIORITIES CHOSEN

3.1 State of play on the implementation of key strategic objectives at the national level

A description of the current state of play with regards to the strategic objectives, as outlined in document SOLID/2011/28, at the national level is found below:

a) more strategic focus on EU standards through the implementation of actions linked to the requirements of the different directives under the CEAS.

The Common European Asylum System (CEAS), which is presently being revised, is made up of a number of Directives, but mainly of the following:

- Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the content of the protection granted
- Council Directive 2005/85/EC of 1 December 2005 on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status
- Council Directive 2003/9/EC of 27 January 2003 laying down minimum standards for the reception of asylum seekers
- Council Regulation (EC) No 2725/2000 of 11 December 2000 concerning the establishment of 'Eurodac' for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of the Dublin Convention
- Council Regulation (EC) No 343/2003 of 18 February 2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national (also known as the Dublin regulation)

The first three Directives relating to the minimum standards for the qualification, procedures and reception conditions have all been transposed into Maltese legislation by means of amendments to the Refugees Act (Cap 420) as well as Regulations made under the same Act. The other two measures, namely the one relating to the Dublin regulation and the one relating to Eurodac are in place and implemented on a day-to-day basis.

b) improvement of the national capabilities through co-operation between Member States.

Regular contact is maintained between the local migration authorities and their counterparts in other Member States through meetings and exchanges of communication. In particular, through the 2009 Return Fund Annual Programme project carried out between 2009 and 2011 and titled 'MAREMCA', meetings have been held with representatives of Belgium, Cyprus, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom. Such meetings focused on outlining the various challenges faced by the different countries in all aspects of their migration management systems and served for Member States to share, with each other, their expertise and experience in the related field. The meetings also served to foster awareness of each Member State's particular challenges and to pave the way for closer working relationships. The aim of

such meetings was also to facilitate contact between Maltese authorities and representatives of countries of origin through the eventual organisation of additional bilateral meetings with selected countries of origin, namely Nigeria and Ghana.

c) increased development of resettlement / relocation activities

Resettlement and relocation activities have been carried out mainly through, but not limited to, the EU co-funded Pilot Project for the intra-EU relocation of beneficiaries of international protection from Malta (EUREMA) as well as through resettlement carried out by the United States of America. It should be noted that prior to its EU accession, Malta had a permanent resettlement programme with the United States of America, Australia and Canada. The 3 programmes were terminated by these countries upon Malta's EU Accession however the United States of America subsequently resumed resettlement from Malta in recognition of the particular circumstances prevailing in the country.

Through the EU Pilot Project (EUREMA), which was carried out between 1 January 2010 and 31 August 2011, a total of 227 beneficiaries of international protection were relocated:

Member States	Amounts relocated
France	95
Germany	102
Luxembourg	6
Portugal	6
Slovenia	8
United Kingdom	10
Total	227

A subsequent project (EUREMA II) which is scheduled to be carried out between 1 January 2012 and 1 July 2013 has been proposed for financing under the ERF Union Actions 2011. The maximum amount of beneficiaries of international protection pledged to be relocated during such period is:

Member States	Amounts committed to be relocated
Hungary	5
Poland	50
Portugal	6
Romania	10
Slovakia	10
Lithuania	6
Bulgaria	4
Total	91

It is also relevant to point out that Malta has made separate arrangements on a bilateral level with a number of Member States:

Member States	Amounts committed to be relocated
Germany	150
Spain	25
The Netherlands	20
Denmark	10
Ireland	10
Total	215

Furthermore, the following non-EU Member States (Schengen associated) have pledged to resettle an additional number beneficiaries of international protection:

Countries	Amounts committed to be relocated
Norway	30
Switzerland	20
Total	50

With regards to US resettlement actions, this involves the active participation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and International Organization for Migration (IOM). As at 31 October 2011, 280 beneficiaries of international protection (out of a total of 6809 persons granted protection since 2002) have so far been resettled under this programme since 2007.

3.2 Revision of the Annual Programme

Following a crisis situation experienced during 2012 due to an influx of migrants received throughout that year two emergency measures have been introduced to mitigate against the urgent demands on the country's reception capacities and infrastructure in particular the provision of medical screening and accommodation facilities within the reception centres.

3.2 Actions implementing Priority 1 – *Implementation of the principles and measures set out in the Community acquis in the field of asylum, including those related to integration objectives*

Introduction

The strategic direction being prioritized for the 2012 Annual Programme is that of enhancing capacity building to be able to implement the Regulations and Directives covered under Priority 1 of the Multi Annual Programme of the European Refugee Fund. The resources, on the logistical, human and financial levels, need to be continuously strengthened and increased for Malta to be able to effectively implement the relevant Community's instruments. Capacity building is needed at various levels to continue to provide support to the target group. This support includes managing accommodation and provision of basic material needs; special assistance for vulnerable groups which may include psychological and social assistance; social welfare and integration actions; as well as preparedness and structural organisation for better long-term management of the population of asylum seekers and protected persons. In this regard, Priority 1 shall attempt to address Key Actions 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 indicated in the Multi Annual Plan.

The 2012 Annual Programme will contribute to the achievement of the General Objective of the European Refugee Fund as defined in Article 2 of Decision 573/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of the 23rd May 2007. Specifically the actions will address:

- Reception conditions and asylum procedures (Article 3(1)(a) and Article 3 (2) of the above mentioned Decision); and
- Integration of persons ...whose stay in a particular member state is of a lasting and stable nature (Article 3(1)(b) and Article 3(3) of the above mentioned Decision).

The actions being proposed for the 2012 Annual Programme aim to address the General Objectives of the European Refugee Fund as described above respectively:

- **ACTION 1:** In line with the Reception Conditions Directive (2003/9/EC of 2003), the Government of Malta aims at continuing to enhance the necessary resources to be able to continue to offer and improve the standard of accommodation to those with a justified claim for asylum. The strategy in this respect has to be a combination of actions that assist daily management, together with investment for the longer-term.
- **ACTION 2 :** A strong aspect of facilitating integration of target groups and easing the difficulties in the interrelation between them and local society in general. The strategy to support the integration and interaction of asylum-seekers/ refugees/beneficiaries of subsidiary protection with the hosting society will aim at providing these persons with tools supporting their self-sufficiency and maximising their skills, including in terms of contribution to and enrichment of the host society.

ACTION 1: RECEPTION CONDITIONS AND ASLYUM PROCEDURES

The activities mentioned hereunder (Activity 1-4) will focus on reception conditions and asylum procedures as per Article 3 (1) (a) of Decision 573/2007.

Activity 1: Increasing capacity and renovation of accommodation facilities (Falling under Key Action: 1 of the Multiannual Programme)

a. Purpose and scope of the activity

The accommodation centres provide lodging facilities and support services to asylum seekers, recognized refugees and persons with subsidiary protection status (*contrary to the Emergency measures only these categories of persons can be supported*).

The need to accommodate the increasing numbers of asylum-seekers and protected persons in accommodation centres is a continuous challenge, not only because of the volatility of the situation but to a certain extent because of the unpredictability of the demand.

The continuous refurbishment of accommodation centres has always been high on the authorities' agenda, particularly since these centres have been running at full capacity since their opening (mostly in the years between 2005 and 2008), their physical condition requires a lot of constant attention. Open centres have to cope with a number of referrals from closed centres. This is possible only due to the additional capacity provided by tents and preferably through mobile homes. Mobile homes provide better living conditions and are more durable and, in the medium to long-term, more cost-effective than tents, which in the Maltese climate last only eight (8) months.

Apart from increasing capacity, in general, there is also the need to undertake some maintenance and refurbishment in the different centres. Although the smaller centres have not experienced the extent of wear and tear of the larger centres, they also require attention. The larger centres, on the other hand, require much heavier maintenance. However the goal of this action is to identify the more critical areas, such as sanitary and dining facilities, to maximise health and safety. The positive impact of refurbishment on residents and staff cannot be over-estimated, since overcrowding in less than ideal conditions adds further stress and creates the potential for other problems.

Through this activity it is envisaged to improve the residential facilities of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection. However, decent accommodation will not only take into consideration the physical environment through renovation but will also take into account the level of services provided such as health and sanitary conditions as well as minimum standards related to personal privacy of the inhabitants. The authorities will hence seek to continuously improve the living conditions in the accommodation centres, through upgrading of present facilities.

The result of this activity is expected to reduce the strain on present facilities and capacity as well as provide inhabitants and personnel with safer, healthier and more adequate residential facilities. The purpose and scope of this action is to maintain, improve the facilities through renovation and, if possible, extend the services provided by the centre for the relevant target groups.

b. Expected grant recipients

Expected grant recipients are public bodies charged with the welfare of the target group, other public or private bodies (including local authorities), NGOs, and any other organisation with the capacity and mandate to undertake this action.

c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

Not applicable. The Responsible Authority shall issue an open call for applications to implement this action

d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Improvement of accommodation facilities through renovation
- Improvement in the services provided in these accommodation centres
- Improved safety in accommodation facilities

e. Visibility of EU funding

In accordance with Article 35 of Commission Decision 2008/22/EC, all projects will ensure the visibility of EU funding in project documentation and presentations. The RA shall include the relevant obligations in the Grant Agreements and shall provide advice and guidance as necessary, as well as supervise visibility during its monitoring and management verification activities.

As defined in Article 34 of Commission Decision 2008/22/EC, the RA shall ensure all projects receiving over €100,000 shall display a permanent plaque detailing the name of the project and the timing of the EU funding. Appropriate provisions with regard to the visibility of the EU logo will be included in the Grant Agreements.

f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, including:

- Emergency Measures 2009 - Emergency Measures – The setting-up of mobile homes to be used as isolation and treatment units by the Health Department
- Emergency Measures 2009 - Increasing the operational capacity of the Office of the Refugee Commissioner
- ERF 2008 - Strengthening infrastructure and integration services for residents through self-empowerment at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2009 - Providing a better quality of life to residents at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2009 – Providing a better quality of life to residents of the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2009 – Providing a better quality of life to residents of the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2010 – An employment support initiative for refugees and beneficiaries of international protection
- ERF 2010 - Better quality of life at the Marsa Open Centre.
- Emergency Measure 2011- Provision of food supplies, enhancing security within open centres and setting up of Mobile Homes.

**Activity 2: Provision of material aid in the centres
(Falling under Key Action: 2 of the Multiannual Programme)**

a. Purpose and scope of the action

One of the challenges that the Government of Malta is facing is that of the provision of material aid on a daily basis. Open centres have had a constant occupancy of over 2000 persons for several years, distributed among several different places of accommodation. However, the actual turnover of residents is much higher, since residents come and go on a regular basis. The volatility and unpredictability of the sector also means that consumables have to be in hand which has stepped up the financial challenge of keeping up with the immediate material needs of the new residents. It is clear that this turn-over has created high demands for items like bed sheets, pillows, blankets (which cannot be re-used or recycled amongst residents). Furthermore basic items such as the provision of food are proving to be expensive and are taking up a substantial proportion of the financial resources available leaving limited resources for other actions.

In this regard active assistance from the European Refugee Fund with a view to dealing with this essential expenditure will be sought. The target is to finance part of the costs for the provision of food and daily consumables, including also medical care, from the ERF. A more contained bill for the provision of these essential basic needs will indicate a better capacity of the Authorities to provide better for other services.

b. Expected grant recipients

Expected grant recipients are public bodies charged with the welfare of the target group, other public or private bodies (including local authorities), NGOs, and any other organisation with the capacity and mandate to undertake this action.

c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

Not applicable. The Responsible Authority shall issue an open call for applications to implement this action

d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- The continuous supply of food and other necessities
- Improved standard of living within the accommodation centres through the provision of material and medical resources.

e. Visibility of EU funding

Similar to Activity 1 (e)

f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EC instruments, if appropriate

Similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, including:

- ERF 2008 – Provision of essential services for the management of reception centres for TCNs
- ERF 2009 – Provision of essential services for the management of reception centres for TCNs within AFM compounds
- ERF 2010 – Better quality of life at the Marsa Open Centre.
- Emergency Measure 2011- Provision of food supplies, enhancing security within open centres and setting up of Mobile Homes.

**Activity 3: Continued provision of medical care
(Falling under Key Action: 3 of the Multiannual Programme)**

a. Purpose and Scope of Actions

Government's objective remains that of providing basic medical care and more specialised treatment to all asylum-seekers, beneficiaries of subsidiary protection and refugees, as the need arises. Basic medical care shall continue to be provided in the centres, as is the practice today. Indeed, the ultimate aim of the government is to reduce the dependency on the public clinics for the provision of basic medical care by increasing the in-house service to a daily, round-the clock service. Assistance from the European Refugee Fund shall be sought in order to alleviate some of the burden on the national finances for the provision of such assistance.

This activity will address the provision of services of medical care for the centres' clinic/first aid centre for preventative medical care and general consultancy, provision of services for the preparation of medications of the increasing number of vulnerable residents and for the administration of medications to residents as well as the provision of psychological support/counselling to assist residents in dealing with mental health issues, in particular Post Traumatic Disorder Syndrome.

Through this activity the services related to the basic needs of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection will be improved and will be oriented towards the specific needs of this population.

b. Expected grant recipients

Expected grant recipients are public bodies charged with the welfare of the target group, other public or private bodies (including local authorities), NGOs, and any other organisation with the capacity and mandate to undertake this action.

c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

Not applicable. The Responsible Authority shall issue an open call for applications to implement this action

d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Increase of medical provision and supplies
- In-house medical service offered in accommodation centres
- Improvement of the medical services offered to asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection
- Specialised support to asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection

e. Visibility of EU Funding

Refer to Activity 1 (e) above

f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, including:

- ERF 2009 - Providing a better quality of life to residents at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2010 - Better quality of life at the Marsa Open Centre.

**Activity 4: Enhancement of assistance provided to vulnerable persons
(Falling under Key Action: 4 of the Multiannual Programme)**

a. Purpose and scope of the action

This activity aims to support the strengthening of measures to address the needs of vulnerable persons in open centres. Such measures, which could include the recruitment of cultural mediators, mental health professionals, provision of social assistance, support through the employment of social workers, care work services, provision of community outreach services to assist residents to find alternative accommodation and community follow-up, specialised professional psycho-social services; and could be complemented by studies on the changing nature of the asylum seekers' population. This would ensure that policies and practices reflect the needs of beneficiaries, including vulnerable persons.

The aim of this activity will also include the setting up of child care centres for the children of residents living in open migrant centres in Malta and possibly for unaccompanied migrant minors residing in the said centres. Such services will be provided by professionals, in collaboration with a professional child care institution. Moreover, the child carers shall also be supported by migrants interested in the field as well as by volunteers.

Furthermore, the activity may also include a vocational training component for irregular migrants interested in engaging in child care. This will enable them to contribute to the care of the children while being supervised and trained by professional child carers. Where necessary, collaboration with mainstream child care and protection services in Malta may be sought to provide psychological and social support by professionals so as to work in the best interest of the children will be supported.

This scope of this activity is to increase the level of services offered in residential set ups, especially for the female population of these residential set ups who may find it difficult to seek employment because they have to take care of the children. This activity will be also offering vocational training for residents who are interested in seeking employment related to child care.

b. Expected Grant Recipients

Expected grant recipients are public bodies charged with the welfare of the target group, other public or private bodies (including local authorities), NGOs, and any other organisation with the capacity and mandate to undertake this action.

c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

Not applicable. The Responsible Authority shall issue an open call for applications to implement this action

d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Improving the existing psycho-social services offered to vulnerable asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection
- Setting up of child care centres for the children of residents living in open centres and unaccompanied minors

- Vocational training for irregular migrant interested in engaging in child care activities

e. Visibility of EU Funding

Refer to 1(e) above

f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, including:

- ERF 2011 – Provision of services to vulnerable groups
- ERF 2011 – Provision of material aid and medical and psychological care
- ERF 2009 - Providing a better quality of life to residents at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2010 - Better quality of life at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF AP 2010 – ‘Provision of sheltered accommodation and psycho-social support to vulnerable asylum seekers to whom such services are not otherwise available’

ACTION 2: INTEGRATION

Activity 1 and 2 hereunder will support integration measures related to the target group as defined in Article 6 of Decision No 573/2007/EC

***Activity 1: Continued provision of educational services
(Falling under Key Action: 6 of the Multiannual Programme)***

a. Purpose and Scope of Actions

The analysis of the situation and requirements for the target group, indicate the need to include and to incorporate such provision of educational services and training in the 2012 Annual Programme.

Whilst a number of the previous actions seek to address the basic needs of the target group, there are other needs, which albeit are not as basic as food, shelter and physical / mental well-being, are part of the comprehensive services which the target group needs in order to be considered as receiving minimum standards in terms of living conditions.

Despite efforts in the past to provide such services as well as skills profiling, it is clear that these efforts need to be further sustained as part of the overall welfare of the target group. One should note that such actions will not only serve the purposes of enhancing the target group's wellbeing but also contribute to easing the tension in closed and open accommodation centres which arises out of misunderstandings due to language barriers; facilitate communication during the procedures for application and evaluation of claims for protection and enhance the possibility of the target group of entering the labour market at some stage.

This activity foresees the continued provision of regular language- training courses in Maltese and English as well as making available other vocational and educational training opportunities (for instance IT), particularly with regard to those persons in open centres whose stay is envisaged to be of a longer/ permanent nature.

b. Expected grant recipients

Expected grant recipients are public bodies charged with the welfare of the target group, other public or private bodies (including local authorities), NGOs, and any other organisation with the capacity and mandate to undertake this action.

c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

Not applicable. The Responsible Authority shall issue an open call for applications to implement this action

d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Increase of educational services for asylum seekers and beneficiaries of protection;

e. Visibility of EU Funding

Refer to Action 1 (e)

f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, including:

- ERF 2008 - Strengthening infrastructure and integration services for residents through self-empowerment at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2009 - Providing a better quality of life to residents at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2010 - Better quality of life at the Marsa Open Centre

**Activity 2: Provision of cultural orientation classes
(Falling under Key Action: 7 of the Multiannual Programme)**

a. Purpose and scope of the action

People benefitting of protection starting out on their quest to integrate in western societies require a basic cultural orientation input. This will ease their transition and facilitate apprehension of how that society operates. This will also serve to avoid misunderstandings and promote social cohesion.

Legally residing third country nationals (TCNs) face three (3) main challenges in their quest to settle in Malta. These include learning the language of the host country; finding legal employment; and acquiring a good knowledge of the culture, essential to achieve a minimum degree of integration into day-to-day life.

The first two challenges will be primarily addressed by other actions. The focus of this action will be to address the third challenge, namely acquiring knowledge of the culture of the host country with the aim of facilitating some degree of integration into Maltese society. This issue reverberates strongly between the newcomers themselves and as well as the host society.

To this effect, this action proposes the organization of cultural orientation courses for beneficiaries of protection. Cultural orientation programs may address inter alia the history of the country, its values (such as equality, freedom of worship etc), its institutions, how to participate in society through work, housing, education, health etc. as well as the more practical details of living in a particular society.

Experience has shown that people benefitting of protection starting out on their quest to integrate in western societies require a basic cultural orientation input. The aim of this activity is hence to assist beneficiaries in their integration process in Malta, appreciate cultural differences and learn to accept these differences as well as challenging any misconceptions that may interfere in the integration process.

b. Expected grant recipients

Expected grant recipients are public bodies charged with the welfare of the target group, other public or private bodies (including local authorities), NGOs, and any other organisation with the capacity and mandate to undertake this action.

c. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as an executing body

Not applicable. The Responsible Authority shall issue an open call for applications to implement this action

d. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- On going provision of language training courses in Maltese and English
- Vocational and educational training opportunities for target group

e. Visibility of EU funding

Refer to Above section 1(e)

f. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Similar actions and projects are being or were implemented over the previous years, including:

- ERF 2009 – Providing better quality of life to residents of the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2010 – Better quality of life at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2008 - Strengthening infrastructure and integration services for residents through self-empowerment at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2009 - Providing a better quality of life to residents at the Marsa Open Centre
- ERF 2010 - Better quality of life at the Marsa Open Centre

3.3 Actions implementing Priority 2: *Development of reference tools and evaluation methodologies to assess and improve the quality of procedures for the examination of claims for international protection and to underpin administrative structures in an effort to respond to the challenges brought forward by enhanced practical cooperation with other Member States.*

No actions are envisaged under this priority for the year 2012.

3.4 Actions implementing Priority 3: *Actions helping to enhance responsibility sharing between Member States and third countries.*

No actions are envisaged under this priority for the year 2012.

In view of the fact that this Annual Program has not implemented certain actions Malta will, if possible, implement actions on priorities not yet covered for during the period 2008 – 2012, in its Annual Programme for 2013.

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

4.1 Purpose of the Technical Assistance

The four Funds, the External Borders Fund, the European Refugee Fund, the European Return Fund and the Integration Fund, are now managed by the same Responsible Authority and the other stakeholders (the Treasury Department⁴, the Certifying Authority and the Audit Authority) are common to all of the Funds. Technical Assistance (where applicable) will be shared between the four Funds.

Technical Assistance is aimed at enhancing the implementation of the Program by providing the above-mentioned authorities with appropriate support. In the course of the activities undertaken by the new RA in the transition period, it has become clear that with the onset of new Programmes, there is a need to enhance capacity, particularly in the RA. In June 2011 the two RAs⁵ had 3 full time officers and one officer on reduced hours with heads that had additional responsibilities within the respective Ministry. It is clear that the fragmentation of the Programmes as well as the relatively high participation of NGOs (particularly in the European Refugee Fund and the European Integration Fund) that there is a need for increased capacity, quantitatively but also increased opportunities for staff training. In this regard, the RA has issued relevant calls and will be engaging additional personnel and will also be undertaking relevant training actions (capitalising on the fact that within the larger structure there are persons with experience in certain issues, including reporting, the management of an electronic system and management verifications).

As at end October 2011, there is also no fully fledged electronic management and information system for the Funds. Currently there is only basic electronic storage of information and a payment system used by the Treasury. The new RA shall seek to establish a more consolidated system, also in view of a more focused use of electronic systems in the new programming period post 2013.

Technical assistance will be considered as one entire project consisting of small operations. This project will be managed by the Responsible Authority. The procedures for applying for technical assistance will be outlined in the Manual of Procedures. The RA will also ensure adequate separation of function within the RA in this regard. The implementation of the Technical Assistance project will comply with the relevant rules and procedures, including public procurement regulations.

The amount of € 75,203 has been earmarked to be used as technical assistance and accordingly, the following activities are envisaged to be implemented:

- Expenditure related to the fulfilment of the obligations assigned to the designated authorities (e.g. salaries of officials within the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Finance, the Economy and Investment and the Internal Audit and Investigations Department (IAID), purchase of computer software, computer equipment, furniture, stationary and consumables, administrative costs);
- Expenditure (including travel costs and subsistence allowance) aimed at sharing of experience and good practices between local stakeholders and European counterparts (such as meetings with other RAs) with the aim of improving the system and making it

⁴ Delegated by the RA to undertake the payment process.

⁵ MIHA for EBF, ERF and RF and MEEF for IF

more effective and efficient. Costs charged to Technical Assistance will include accommodation for a number of Member State officers travelling to Malta or Maltese officers travelling to other Member States as well as organisation of meeting/s;

- Expenditure related to project selection, monitoring, reporting, management verifications as well as audit and control;
- Expenditures related to external expertise – e.g the fulfilment of other tasks e.g. evaluation;
- Expenditure related to translation and interpretation (as appropriate);
- Expenditure necessary for the preparation and dissemination of documentation and information (e.g. compilation and publication of manuals of procedure, explanatory documents and publication of calls for proposals);
- Expenditure (including travel costs and subsistence allowance) relating to participation of officials in various meetings (e.g. SOLID Committee), different workshops and training conferences which are directly related to their function;
- Expenditures related to the training of officials and stakeholders, including Beneficiaries and partner organisations;
- Expenditures related to publicity and information activities (including programmes on local media regarding the results and impacts of the Programme, organization of seminars and information meetings for potential applicants etc...);
- Expenditure related to the setting up of an electronic management information system.

4.2 Expected quantified results

The main result of the use of Technical Assistance is the successful implementation of the 2012 Program. Expected results, depending on the actual activities carried out, will be as follows:

- 70 % increase in capacity⁶;
- Successful implementation of the Programme;
- Effective announcement of Open Calls (in newspapers, websites, etc);
- The organisation of at least 6 bilateral monitoring meetings;
- The organization of at least one conference to be organized per year for beneficiaries and stakeholders;
- Engagement of external evaluators to carry out an independent external evaluation of the annual program after closure of projects where necessary;
- The setting up of an electronic management information system;

4.3 Visibility of EU Funding

The EU logo will be applied to all materials prepared (instruction documents, application forms, advertising materials, etc) and also equipment which is purchased (e.g. computers). When required, information activities (for launching of call, etc) will be carried out and media articles will be published in order to publicise any relevant development.

The RA also intends to publicise the results of the Programme using different media.

⁶ This figure refers to all 4 funds.

5. OTHER OPERATIONS – EMERGENCY MEASURES

In order to address situations of particular pressure the Maltese authorities envisage also implementing a series of Emergency measures.

A. Description of the situation of particular pressure requiring emergency measures

1 An indication of the exceptional character of the situation

Due to its geographical position on the main migration routes from Africa to Europe, Malta has, in recent years, received a high number of irregular immigrants seeking asylum. This situation, coupled with the inalienable realities that are typical of the smallest island State in Europe – extraordinarily high population density and, small geographical footprint – automatically give rise to a situation where Malta is obliged to carry a burden substantially disproportionate to its physical size and financial capabilities.

A constant flow of immigrants undertaking long and dangerous journeys across the Mediterranean Sea aboard flimsy boats in order to seek refuge in Europe continued even throughout the 2012 adding up to the amount of immigrants already provided refuge in Malta throughout the years. Following the beginning of the Libyan uprising, 1,579 irregular immigrants reached Malta from Libya during 2011. This year (2012) a total of 1,890 irregular immigrants have already reached the shores of Malta (as at mid November as per Annex 1 attached). Of these 1890 immigrants, 1825 applied for protection. Besides these the Office of the Commissioner for Refugees also had 202 other persons who applied for international protection. This gives a total of 2027 new asylum applicants.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) statistics for 2011⁷, when one considers population, Malta received the largest number of asylum applications among the 44 industrialised countries covered by the report, with 4.4 applications per 1,000 inhabitants. According to the same report, Malta also received the largest number of asylum applications per 1,000 inhabitants for the period 2007-2011, with 20.1 applications per 1,000 inhabitants. It should be noted that the new figures for 2012 put Malta in first place as regards the number of asylum applicants per 1000 of the population not only in Europe but in the whole world. In Europe Malta is having ten times the EU average. [Europe population is 500 million and asylum applicants are 250,000 i.e. 1 asylum applicant every 2000, while in Malta we have 2000 asylum applicants for 400,000 population i.e. 1 asylum applicant for every 200 of the population. 2000:200 is 10:1].

Malta's situation is exceptional when its geographic and demographic factors are considered. Malta's population density stands at almost **1,300 persons / km²** (Population: 404,962⁸; Area: 316 km²), making it by far the most densely populated EU Member State, and one of the most densely populated countries in the world. These factors must of course be borne in mind because they have a direct impact on the absorption capacity of the country⁹. When

⁷ UNHCR, Asylum Levels and Trends in Industrialised Countries for 2011, dated 27 March 2012

⁸ National Statistics Office: The 2011 Census of Population and Housing.

⁹ This is also confirmed by the European Commission as per Communication No. (2012)1335362 – 13/11/2012 pg5 where it states that: Malta's geographical location, size and population density mean that it is particularly affected by migration flows from North Africa. Compared to the other EU Member States, Malta is receiving a very large number of asylum seekers per capita

consideration is given to factors such as population, area and Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the Member States, 2027 immigrants/asylum-seekers in Malta would be equivalent to more than a million in France (1,099,389); and nearly a million in Spain (960,994).

1.2 The number and nature of arrivals

Following the Libyan uprising Malta continued to receive a disproportionate influx of immigrants/asylum seekers. In this regard it is pertinent to mention that up to mid November this year a total of 1,890 irregular immigrants have already reached the shores of Malta with a total of almost 600 reaching Malta in May, over 400 in August and a further 323 in November. Such large influxes over a short period of time put heavy pressure on each stakeholder involved in migration management. This demonstrates that irregular migration from Libya is still a real challenge for Malta.

Moreover, most of the irregular immigrants apply for international protection. In this regard it is pertinent to mention that many of those who apply for international protection are *prima facie* eligible for international protection (such as Eritrean and Somali applicants). Out of the 1,890 arrivals in 2012; 1,238 were from Somalia and 452 were from Eritrea.

Other challenges faced by Malta are due to the fact that a large percentage of irregular immigrants reach Malta without documents, which causes considerable difficulty in repatriating these persons (mainly failed asylum-seekers) to certain third countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In the table below the number of arrivals have been noted down.

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number	1686	502	1388	1822	1780	1702	2775	1475	47	1579	1890*

* Up to November

1.3 The effects of these arrivals on reception capacities, the asylum system or infrastructure

The afore-mentioned exceptional amount of arrivals has led to unsustainable pressures on the country's reception capacities and infrastructure. The situation is exacerbated further by the sporadic arrivals that reached the shores of Malta this year (2012) with 600 immigrants/asylum seekers reaching Malta in May, 400 in August and 323 in November alone. In such situations conditions in reception centers are rendered more difficult due to a number of issues such as overcrowding and the need for more basic supplies, in particular the provision of beds and other consumables. The sudden influx of irregular immigrants in a short span of time also leads to mainstream health services being overwhelmed by the requirements of initial screening of new arrivals. Moreover medical checks are also carried at different stages of the asylum process, thus putting pressure on mainstream health services at various instances throughout the year.

The increase in the number of arrivals has also led to problems related to accommodation. Despite the overstretched resources, Malta has provided (and continues to provide) accommodation for such persons. However, the burden of accommodating the continuously increasing amount of asylum seekers is exerting exceptionally heavy and urgent demands on

the reception capacities available in the accommodation centres. The sheer number of persons in both open and closed reception centres has had a detrimental effect on the infrastructure with basic services failing repeatedly because of the demand generated by so many people accommodated together. In certain places maintenance demands have overtaken maintenance capabilities contributing to decline in living conditions. This situation is aggravated due to the unpredictable trend of arrivals throughout the year, which as has been noted can at times be concentrated in a short period of time having a domino effect on both the closed and open centres. As a result, the reception centres already characterized by a high level of population density, are increasingly experiencing overcrowding, with inevitable negative impacts on the standard of living of the residents.

1.4 The urgent needs

This situation has placed considerable additional stress on Malta's reception capacities, asylum infrastructure and mainstream health services, which are already constantly stretched to the limits to cater for the large number of persons. In this regard, the related authorities are struggling to cope with such financial burden which is over and above the amounts earmarked for these purposes in the ERF Annual programme 2012 and also above the amounts initially projected in the national budget to be spent in 2012/2013 for such purposes.

One of the basic needs that has to be addressed urgently is the provision of adequate accommodation within the reception centres. Considering that the emergency situation does not allow for short/medium-term plans to upgrade the present infrastructure, the only feasible alternative is that a number of mobile homes are procured as soon as possible in order to relocate residents to a more hospitable, secure and private environment.

In order to relieve the pressure on mainstream medical services a dedicated medical centre, equipped to service the population in the closed and open centres would be set up. Most of the centres are located at a distance from the health centre catering for this catchment area and therefore the need for transportation of persons is increased. Such a centre would serve as a one-stop shop for initial screening upon arrival and other medical checks during the asylum process. Particularly, such capacity would enable the identification of any health concern/infectious disease at an early stage before it could progress to a stage where it could seriously jeopardize the health of both the carriers and the other asylum seekers in the relative centre. The medical centre would consist of a mobile infrastructure that would make it possible to reach each reception centre in a more efficient and timely manner.

1.5 The short-term objectives

The objective of the Maltese authorities is to enhance the capacities of the government entities to cater effectively to periods of particular pressure that are experienced due to sudden and unpredictable number of arrivals in a short time span. The resultant exceptionally heavy and urgent demands placed on the reception centres, mainstream medical services, and other asylum infrastructure need to be addressed urgently in order to prevent such situations from overwhelming the service providers. Such demands include more appropriate and comfortable accommodation, a dedicated medical centre. Besides increasing capacity and quality of reception, these procurements would also replace some of the facilities that are long past their life time.

2. Emergency measures envisaged

In view of the emergency situation being experienced (described in previous sections) and the exceptional and urgent demands that are being placed on the accommodation facilities, the Maltese Authorities are requesting the assistance of the Emergency Measures of the ERF 2012.

Measure 1: Procurement of Mobile Homes

Purpose and scope of the measure, including target groups

Accommodation of persons who may be in need of international protection / asylum seekers is provided in a varied mix of reception centres which include military barracks, adapted buildings, an ex-aircraft hangar, tent villages and mobile home areas. Every effort, (within the limited resources available) is employed to ensure that living conditions are acceptable and as humane as possible and that the potential of the various facilities is maximised for the benefit of the residents who are housed therein. However, the current inherent limitation of some of the facilities requires much needed improvement. The situation is not helped when sudden influxes of incoming persons in relatively short periods of time leading to centres being full to capacity and stretched to the limits.

By way of improving reception and accommodation conditions, mobile homes are being acquired to further ameliorate the persons living conditions in reception centres. Mobile Homes have been found to offer better protection in inclement weather and offer more privacy and security to the respective residents, especially for the family units which arrived in far greater numbers than in previous years during 2011/2012 with a large majority of women being pregnant or carrying infants. Therefore the Government is seeking the procurement of further mobile homes to attain this purpose.

This process of upgrading was being undertaken by Malta in a phased manner, in tandem with the resources available. However, the recent influx of persons and the somewhat unusual composition thereof – a much larger number of family units than was the tendency in previous years – have impacted on this process in two ways. In the first instance the sudden increase in numbers has forced the authorities to step up the process to meet the resulting extra demand. Secondly the type of groups (more families) have also resulted in the urgent need to increase the number of such homes to be acquired because the larger number of family units require more privacy than would have been the case if, as in previous occasions, most incoming persons were single males.

In view of this, it is being proposed that the emergency measures are utilized in order to purchase 100 mobile homes (the actual figure is dependent on the actual cost of each mobile home and related shipping costs). The mobile homes can house an average of 10 persons per home¹⁰. The new mobile homes will add to the previously procured mobile homes in order to continue to provide the residents with better living conditions. It has to be pointed out that residential mobile homes are not available in Malta, either for purchase or for leasing and therefore the related shipping costs would have to be covered as well.

¹⁰ The actual number of persons depends on whether they are family units or separate individuals.

The target groups shall be residents within the reception centres which form part of the categories listed in Article 6 of Decision 573/2007/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund.

The procurement of the mobile homes will be done through Legal Notice 296 of 2010¹¹ as per article 20(4) of the said Legal Notice.

Duration of the measure

1st January 2013 – 30th June 2013

Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as executing body

In view of the urgent situation of a high influx of irregular immigrants who may be in need of international protection and the resulting impending needs to be catered for in a short period of time, the RA shall use the executing body method. Implementation will be carried out by the Ministry for Home Affairs. The RA has opted to act by this method of implementation because the Ministry for Home Affairs, enjoy a form of monopolistic situation since they are the main Government Ministry currently addressing issues related to closed and open accommodation centres in Malta, especially in the light of the afore-mentioned arrivals which urgently require immediate action to be taken.

Expected grant recipients

The Ministry for Home Affairs

Estimated Cost

€ 662,335 in EU co-financing. Total project cost €827,918.75

Expected quantified results

The procurement of 100 mobile homes to be used for housing residents within the reception centres.

Indicators to be used

Improved standards of living for migrants including migrant families in the reception centres through relocation within mobile homes.

Visibility of EU funding

Signs will be installed by the grant recipients on the mobile homes, clearly indicating the source of funding. While a commemorative plaque will be placed at the entrance where the mobile homes will be placed. A press release will also be issued when procurement is completed.

Complementarity with existing actions supported by the European Refugee Fund

¹¹ Public Procurement Regulations 2010:
<http://www.mjha.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lp&itemid=20161>

Such measure complements other actions, supported by the ERF that have been carried out along the years to improve the living conditions of target groups. In particular, similar or parallel actions were carried out under the ERF 2011 Annual Programme (Emergency Measures) titled 'Procurement of Mobile Homes' which procured 100 mobile homes which were placed in Hal-Far Detention and Open Centre.

Measure 2: Procurement of medical and isolation Units and a Direct Digital X-Ray Machine within a Mobile Unit

Purpose and scope of the measure, including target groups

The increase in arrivals of irregular immigrants has also resulted in pressures related to the treatment of sicknesses and infectious diseases. A number of immigrants who arrive in Malta suffer from different illnesses and diseases which put on a greater burden on the Maltese health centres and the general hospital which are called in, in the first instance to identify and treat such asylum seekers. These tasks are therefore incorporated into their already overloaded work load within the general hospital and the primary health centres which have to deal with demands from the local population as well as of tourists visiting Malta.

In addition the problem of overcrowding in the centres can lead to wide community outbreaks of diseases such as tuberculosis (TB) and chicken pox with several cases registered in the past years amongst the migration population. Currently such cases are being treated in the isolation units already procured through ERF 2009 Annual Programme (Emergency Measures) however due to the current influx, a number of immigrants have to be taken to Malta's general hospital and when discharged from hospital while waiting for results of investigations, they return to the centres with the risk of outbreaks of infectious diseases. The latter could potentially lead to an epidemic of TB. This situation becomes even more alarming in the light of H1N1 swine flu virus which cases were also registered within the immigrant population in Malta, and potentially causing wide community outbreaks in the same population. This situation poses a serious health risk for both the immigrant and the Maltese communities.

In view of the above, the early detection and isolation of serious cases in isolated units is imperative to ensure that the health of those already infected and those who might come into contact with them, is safeguarded.

Apart from the procurement of isolation units, an X ray machine is proposed to be procured, together with a maintenance agreement for five years, to screen the irregular immigrants for chest infections. Since all irregular immigrants which arrive in Malta need to be screened, thus adding up to the number of Maltese nationals who need to be X rayed as well, it is being proposed that a separate X ray machine is procured to screen the irregular immigrants separately thus alleviating the burden being placed on the Radiology Departments in the health centres and the general hospital to screen large numbers of individuals.

Both the procurement of the isolation Units and the X ray machine will be done through Legal Notice 296 of 2010¹² as per article 20(4) of the said Legal Notice.

Duration of the measure

¹² Public Procurement Regulations 2010:
<http://www.mjha.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lp&itemid=20161>

1st January 2013 – 30th June 2013

Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the responsible authority acting as executing body

In view of the urgent situation of the arrival of a high number of irregular immigrants who need to be screened as early as possible and those being treated at the General Hospital of Malta as well as the need to take action immediately to isolate others released from hospital from spreading on the infectious disease, the RA shall use the executing body method. Implementation will be carried out by the Ministry for Health, the Elderly and Community Care. The RA has opted to act by this method of implementation because the Ministry for Health is solely responsible for the general health provision in Malta.

Expected grant recipients

The Ministry for Health, the Elderly and Community Care.

Estimated Cost

€460,000 in EU co-financing. Total Project Cost €575,000.

Expected quantified results

The procurement of 3 Infectious Units, 1 mobile unit housing a direct digital X ray machine.

Indicators to be used

Better prevention of risks for infectious diseases. Improved health conditions for target population.

Visibility of EU funding

In order to ensure the visibility of EU funding, the service provider shall be informed through a formal communication that the procurement of the medical units has been covered as part of the Emergency Measures. Furthermore, signs will be installed by the grant recipients on the medical units, clearly indicating the source of funding.

Complementarity with existing actions supported by the European Refugee Fund

Such measure complements another action, supported by the ERF Annual Programme 2009 (Emergency measure) titled 'The Setting up of mobile homes to be used as isolation and treatment units by the Health Department which was used for the procurement of 3 mobile clinics used a medical isolation and treatment units by the Health Department and placed in the closed accommodation centres in Ta'Kandja, Hal-Far and Hal-Safi. These mobile clinics hosted 6 persons in routine use and were also equipped with bunk beds to give a maximum capacity of 12 persons.

3. Eligibility rules

3.1 Start date and end date of all the measures

All measures will be implemented over the period 1st January 2013 – 30th June 2013. Maximum duration of each measure is 6 months.

3.2 Derogations to the eligibility rules on expenditure, referred to in Annex 11 of this decision, in accordance with Article 5 of the basic act

Considering the urgent needs outlined above and the short duration of the measures the equipment will be purchased, because limiting the eligibility of costs to cover only the depreciation costs makes it not a feasible option.

Therefore, as foreseen in Article 40(2) of the implementing rules it is being put forward for the European Commission's consideration the application of a derogation on the full costs of equipment purchased (which will include maintenance costs). For individual items costing below 20.000 EURO the possibility for purchasing the equipment during the whole 6 month period would be necessary.

6 FINANCING PLAN

Annual Programme 2012 - Financial Plan
Table 1 - Overview table

Member State: Republic of Malta
Annual programme concerned: 2012
Fund: European Refugee Fund

<i>(all figures in euro)</i>	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	EU Contribution (a)	Public/Private Allocation (b)	TOTAL (c= a+b)	% EU (d=a/c)	Share of total (e=c/total c)
Action 1: Reception Conditions and Asylum Procedures							
Activity 1: Increasing capacity and renovation of accommodation facilities	1	1.1	225,000	75,000	300,000	75%	9.75%
Activity 2: Provision of material aid in the centres	1	1.1	447,000	149,000	596,000	75%	19.38%
Activity 3: Continued provision of medical care	1	1.1	75,000	25,000	100,000	75%	3.25%
Activity 4: Enhancement of assistance provided to vulnerable persons	1	1.1	150,000	50,000	200,000	75%	6.50%
Action 2: Integration							
Activity 5: Continued provision of educational services	1	1.1	150,000	50,000	200,000	75%	6.50%
Activity 6: Provision of cultural orientation classes	1	1.1	150,000	50,000	200,000	75%	6.50%
Technical Assistance			75,698	0	75,698	100%	2.46%
Other Operations			1,122,335	280,583.75	1,402,918.75	80%	45.62%
Total			2,395,033	679,583.75	3,074,616.75	77.89%	99.96%

Funds and Programmes Division
Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. Raphael Scerri

Director General Funds & Programmes
Office of the Prime Minister

30.11.2012
Date

