

MONITORING COMMITTEE for Operational Programme II

Investing in Competitiveness for a Better Quality of Life

Strategic Report 20 November 2009

What is a Strategic Report?



- **New Obligation under 2007-2013:**
 - **Article 29(2) of the General Regulations stipulates that Member States are to submit a report by end 2009 and a second report by end 2012 latest.**



Aim of the Strategic Report



- **To provide a concise report containing information on the contribution of the programmes co-financed by the funds towards:**
 - implementing the objectives of cohesion policy as established by the Treaty;
 - fulfilling the tasks of the funds as set out within the Regulation;
 - implementing the priorities detailed in the Community Strategic Guidelines on Cohesion and the priorities set by the NSRF; and
 - achieving the objective of promoting competitiveness and job creation and achieving the objectives of the integrated guidelines for growth and jobs (2005 to 2008).



Strategic Report – Format



- **Format of report set by Commission through COCOF Information Note dated 18 May 2009.**
- **Indicative Structure:**
 - **Socio-economic situation and trends;**
 - **Achievements and Future Prospects;**
 - **Progress in Implementation and challenges;**
 - **Examples of Good Practices; and**
 - **Conclusions and Annexes.**



Strategic Report – The Local Context



- **Coordination - Managing Authority**
- **Various requests for information were sent to Line Ministries through Director EU Affairs. Information requested included:**
 - **updated information with respect to the relevant chapters of the NSRF;**
 - **submission of national and sectoral strategies; and**
 - **update on relevant statistics.**



Socio Economic Situation

- **Impact of international economic crisis:**
 - Malta's GDP per capita in PPS terms (2008) – 75.4%
 - representing a decline of 3 percentage points compared 2003.
 - Slow down in economic growth in 2008 – 2.1% in real terms – implying 1.6 percentage points decrease in growth compared to 2007
 - Decrease in overall employment rate by 0.3 percentage points - 6.3% (2008).
 - Sectors most hit by economic crisis include manufacturing, construction, wholesale and retail trade, and tourism (hotels and restaurants).

Achievements and Future Prospects (i)



- **Proposed Sections:**

1. **Contribution to the objectives of the NSRF- update on output and result indicators.**
2. **Results on evaluations undertaken on cohesion policy programmes.**
3. **Expenditure declared by OP and progress committing planned allocations.**
4. **Realised or expected contribution towards the Community Strategic Guidelines.**



Achievements & Future Prospects (ii)



5. **Contribution of the ESF towards the European Employment Strategy, the National Strategy Reports on Social Protection and Social Inclusion and other community priorities and targets in the education and employment field**
6. **Contribution towards the National Reform Programme under the Lisbon Agenda**



Achievements & Future Prospects – 1. Indicators



- **Vision 2007-2013 is underpinned by two goals namely:**
 - **Convergence - converging Malta's GDP per capita to that of the EU25 ¹ average; and**
 - **Cohesion - increasing Gozo's GDP per capita as a percentage of that of Malta (in Purchasing Power Standards terms).**

¹ Figures are now updated to reflect EU27



Achievements & Future Prospects – Indicators

Goal/Indicator	Baseline (Year)	Target (Year)	Update (Year)
Converging Malta's GDP per capita to that of the EU25 average (in PPP)	77.8 % (2005)		75.5% (2008)
Increasing Gozo's GDP per capita as a percentage of that of Malta (PPS terms)	75.9 % (2003)	78.0 % (2013)	76.9% (2006)
% increase in nominal exports of goods and services ¹	€4,451, 454 (2006)	4% increase on 2006 figures (2013)	3.7% on 2006 Figures (2008)
% increase in the employment rate	54.3 % (2005)	57.0 % (2013)	52.9% (2008)

1 Figures quoted in '000s

Source National Statistics Office

Achievements & Future Prospects – Evaluations

- To date 1 Ex-Ante Evaluation for the 2007-2013 period has been carried out.
- Aim: To provide the required foundations for monitoring and for future evaluations whilst ascertaining that:
 - development issues have been correctly diagnosed,
 - the strategy and objectives proposed are relevant,
 - there is coherence in relation to Community policies and guidelines, and
 - expected impacts are realistic.
- Managing Authority has launched Mid-term Evaluation Tender on the market and is expected to close on the 12th January 2010.

Achievements & Future

Prospects – Expenditure declared by OP

Certified Expenditure

- **One payment claim sent in June 09.**
- **Interim expenditure certified to and paid by EC so far:**
 - **Operational Programme I: €1,636,873;**
 - **Operational Programme II: € 71,429;**
- **The MA is currently in the process of raising the second claim under all three Funds**

Achievements & Future

Prospects – Progress in commitments by OP



- **Amounts committed (EU share only) to projects or schemes under each OP:**
 - **Operational Programme I: €345,206,524 (48%)**
 - **Operational Programme II: €64,904,779 (58%)**

Figures as at 30th September 2009 as required by CION

Operational Programme I – Cohesion Policy 2007- 2013
Event part-financed by the European Union
European Regional Development Fund



Achievements & Future Prospects – Contribution of the ESF towards the European Employment Strategy



- **Malta's response to the EES has been formulated within the NRP.**
- **OPII through the ESF is supporting the different initiatives closely interlinked to the EES namely:**
 - **Improving the adaptability of workers and enterprises E.g. Training Aid Framework.**
 - **Attracting more people to the labour market and making work a real option for all. E.g. Employment Aid Programme.**
 - **Investing more and more effectively in human capital and lifelong learning. E.g. provision of post-graduate bursaries at Masters and Doctoral level for fields of studies in areas of national priority, especially R&D and innovation activity.**



Achievements & Future Prospects – Contribution towards the National Reform Programme under the Lisbon Agenda – OPI



Projects and Schemes Approved under Earmarked categories	€101,244,121
% of Project and Schemes Approved falling under the Earmarking categories:	35.7%
Projects, Aid Schemes including Major Projects :	€150,194,245
% of Project and Schemes Approved falling under the Earmarking categories including Major Projects:	53%



Achievements & Future Prospects – Contribution towards the National Reform Programme under the Lisbon Agenda - OPII



Projects and Schemes Approved under Earmarked categories:	€ 56,334,175.59
% of Project and Schemes Approved falling under the Earmarking categories	86.8%



Progress and Challenges

- 1. Outline of the main measures taken to facilitate the implementation of the programme**
- 2. Major developments in relevant national and regional policies.**
- 3. Contribution of the OPs towards the European Economic Recovery Plan.**

Progress and Challenges - Main Measures taken to facilitate the implementation of the Programme



- Capacity Building (including one-to-one training) in a number of organisations;
- Availability of pre-financing;
- Strengthened inter-agency co-ordination;
- Strengthened monitoring and reporting (including regular updates to Cabinet and PPS bi-laterals);
- Timely escalation of problems and bottlenecks; and
- New proposals with regard to project selection (in the pipe-line).



Progress and Challenges – Major Developments in National and Regional Policies



- **National Strategies:**
 - Pre-Budget and Budget Documents for 2008, 2009 and 2010;
 - Malta's National Reform Programme including Annual Progress Reports for 2007, National Reform Programme 2008-2010 and its subsequent Annual Progress Report 2009;
 - Vision 2015; and
 - Eco-Gozo (regional).
- **Sectoral strategies:**
 - Tourism Policy for the Maltese Islands;
 - The Smart Island – the National ICT Strategy 2008-2010;
 - A National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) 2008;
 - A Proposal for Energy Policy 2009.
- **Other Reforms including MEPA Reform, Rent Reform , Public Transport Reform, amongst others.**



European Economic Recovery Plan



- **Actions undertaken as part of the CION proposal in relation to the EERP to mitigate the impact of the crisis include:**
 - **Pre-finance all public eligible expenditure;**
 - **Front loading of planned investment over the 2007-2013 period; and**
 - **Advance Payments on Major Projects.**



Actions Mitigating International Economic Crisis



- **In addition to the actions proposed under EERP, Malta has undertaken a number of actions with a view to mitigate against the impact of the international economic crisis. These include:**
 - **Doubling the amount under Jeremie from €5 million - €10million**
 - **Increase in the amount of aid schemes by €7 million**



Examples of Good Practice



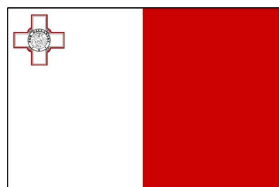
- **Examples of Good Practice in terms of 2007-2013 programme strategies will address each of the following key pillars of the Community Strategic Guidelines namely:**
 - **Making Europe and its regions more attractive places in which to invest and work;**
 - **Improving knowledge and innovation for growth;**
 - **More and better jobs; and**
 - **The territorial dimension of Cohesion Policy.**



State of Play

- **Report currently being drafted by the Managing Authority based on input received from Line Ministries.**
- **Draft will be placed on the Managing Authority's website prior to submission to the European Commission.**
- **Deadline for Submission: 31st December 2009.**

Thank you



Operational Programme I – Cohesion Policy 2007-2013
Investing in Competitiveness for a Better Quality of Life

Event part-financed by the European Union
European Regional Development Fund
Co-financing rate: 85% EU Funds; 15% National Funds.



Investing in your future.