



EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND
COHESION FUND
MALTA 2007-2013



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
MINISTRY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT
FOR THE EU PRESIDENCY 2017 AND EU FUNDS

Thematic Evaluation of Operational Programme I

Task 2 Presentation

20th November 2015



Structure of Presentation:

1. Background to Evaluation
2. Details of Methodology
3. Results
4. Recommendations
5. Progress and Next Steps



1. BACKGROUND TO EVALUATION

- Evaluation is an essential element of implementation of EU Structural Funds
- Council Regulation 1083/2006 provides for shift towards more flexible demand driven approach to evaluation
 - Thematic Evaluation OPI aim is “to examine the evaluation of a programme in relation to community and national policies”
- Themes 1 – 4 are related to the Competitiveness aspect while Themes 5 – 7 are related to the Quality of Life aspect



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2. DETAILS OF METHODOLOGY

Phase 1: Structuring

- Agreement on the overall approach
- Assemble documentation and indicators
- Finalise approach to quantitative data collection
- Finalise approach to case studies and focus groups

2. DETAILS OF METHODOLOGY

Phase 2: Observing

- Collection of detailed data
- Need for survey evidence due to data gaps
- Sample design for survey research
- Undertake survey research
- Undertake consultation programme

2. DETAILS OF METHODOLOGY

Phase 3: Analysing

- Detailed quantitative analysis
- Statistical analysis of evidence
- Analysis of qualitative findings
- Integration of Analysis





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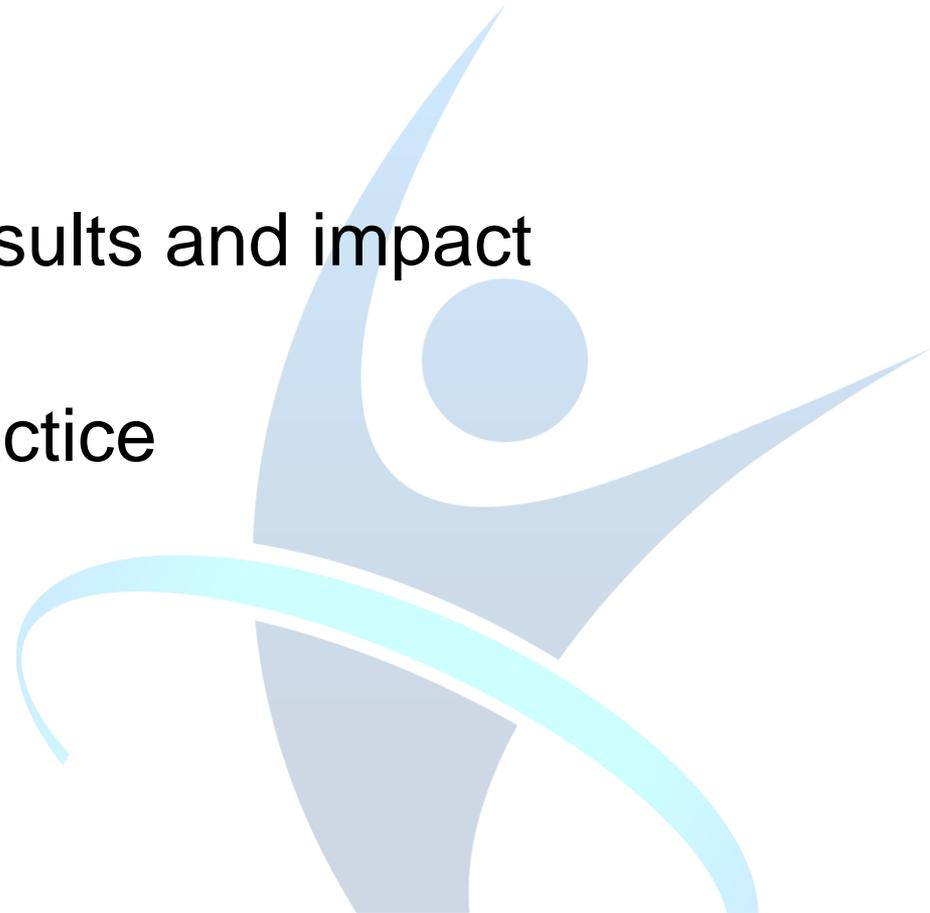
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2. DETAILS OF METHODOLOGY

Phase 4: Judging

- Assessment of output, results and impact
- Overall conclusions
- Key lessons and best practice
- Recommendations



3. Results

Theme 1 – Enterprise and Competitiveness

- Number of direct jobs created as a result of OPI interventions to date remain relatively low. This is understandable considering the status of implementation as at 31 December 2013
- The output and result indicators show good progress and are approaching or have exceeded targets in many cases
 - No. of SMEs benefitting from JEREMIE at 97% of target
 - No. of SMEs launching new products at 155% of target
 - No. of SMEs improving market penetration at 125% of target
- Significant progress on several indicators between 2012 and 2013

3. Results

Theme 1 – Enterprise and Competitiveness

- Theme 1 enterprise and SME measures are aligned with the economic objectives for Malta
- Survey of SMEs report largely positive impact of projects. Large majority state schemes had ‘significant’ or ‘very significant’ impact
- Most significant impact being ‘contribution to overall viability’
- Some negative responses to survey on payments process
- Administrative aspect of the operation of the Programme which merits consideration



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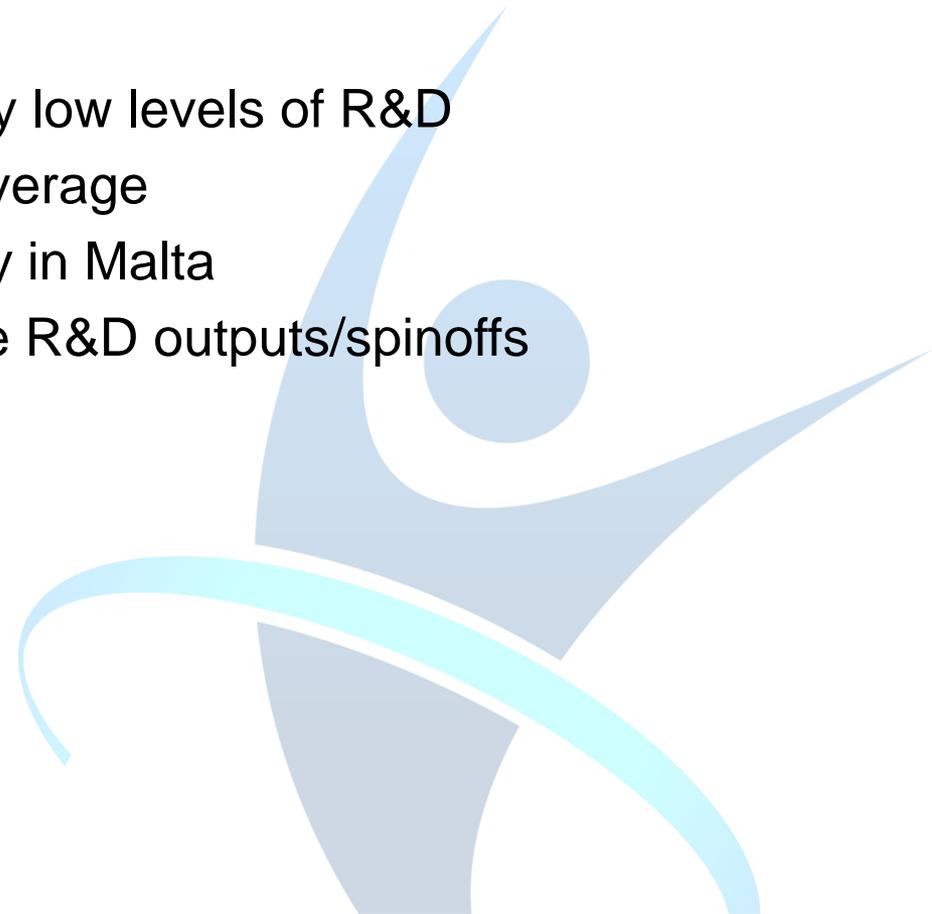
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3. Results

Theme 2 – S&T and R&D

- Maltese economy characterized by low levels of R&D
- Remains significantly below EU average
- Constraints on absorption capacity in Malta
- Key challenge is to better evaluate R&D outputs/spinoffs



3. Results

Theme 2 – S&T and R&D

- OPI target for R&D investment as percentage of GDP has been met and therefore Theme 2 is performing well against indicators
- Significant progress made on several indicators exceeding target levels include no. of:
 - RTDi projects;
 - New learning facilities
 - SMEs launching new or improved products
- Strong performance may reflect the need to revise the target taken into account the level Malta started from

3. Results

Theme 3 – Tourism product

- 42% increase in tourist numbers since 2006
- OPI tourism projects aim to improve the quality of tourism product and culture in Malta and reduce the seasonality of tourism
- Many projects were still ongoing at time of evaluation so further analysis required under Task 3 to assess impact

3. Results

Theme 3 – Tourism product

- Malta's performance between October and December has outperformed competitors
- The number of 'shoulder-season' tourists has increased, however, it is not proportion to the tourists visiting Malta during high season
- Growth in off-peak tourism is key opportunity for Maltese economy and may require additional priority to developing special interest niche tourism projects in the next programming period

3. Results

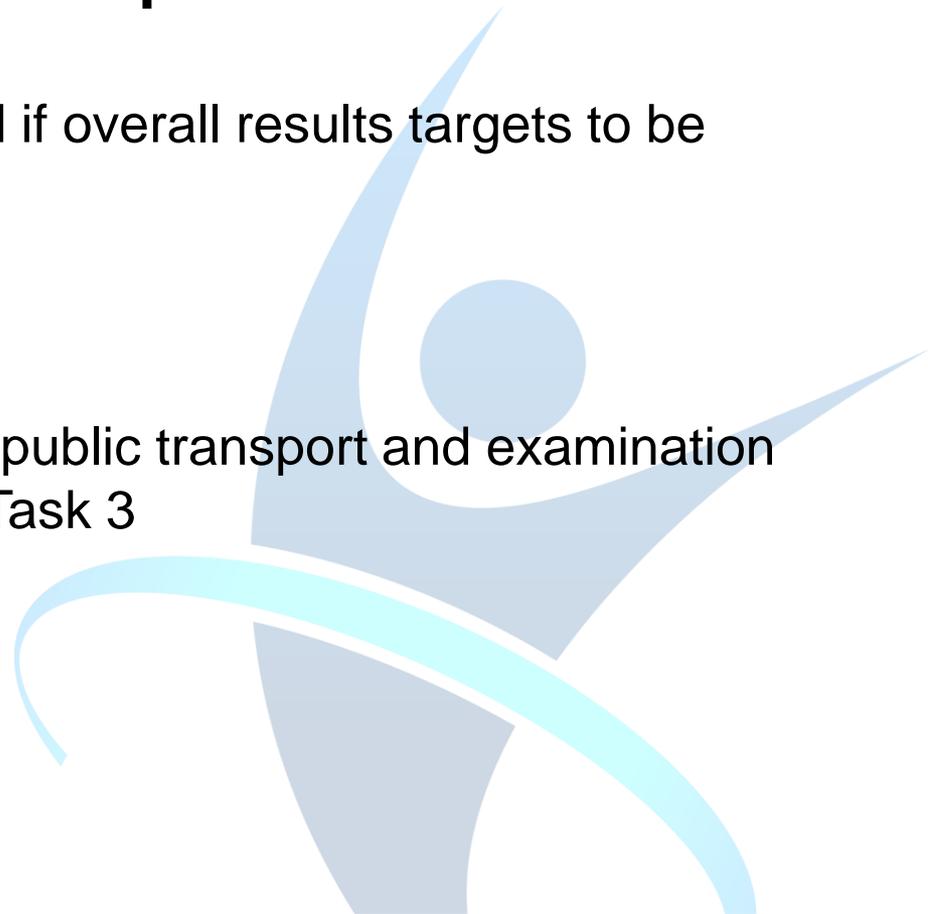
Theme 4 – Transport

- Focus of OPI on improving the physical infrastructure (road network and port facilities)
- Aim to improve the TEN-T and non TEN-T transport network and other modes of transport in Malta
- Marked improvement in international competitiveness rankings for road network from 2010 to 2013
- Significant progress towards output indicator between 2012 and 2013

3. Results

Theme 4 – Transport

- Significant further progress needed if overall results targets to be met including:
 - Reduction in journey times;
 - Increase in use of non-car modes; and
 - Reduction in traffic accidents.
- Review of overall developments in public transport and examination of transport modalities required in Task 3



3. Results

Theme 5 – Energy

- 36,692 MWh of electricity generated from renewable sources in 2013 – 2% of total energy generation
- Indicator data shows positive results against targets
 - Solar water heaters installed at 95% of target
 - No. of energy efficiency schemes at 100% of target
 - Annual penetration rate of installed PV, micro-wind generating systems exceeded Task1 target but now at 48% of updated target
 - Electricity generated from small scale PV and micro-wind installations at 47% of updated Task 2 target

3. Results

Theme 5 – Energy

- Progress is still required on several indicators if targets are to be met
 - Total energy savings per year currently at 35% of target
- Significant progress has been made in increasing renewable energy sources in the Maltese economy however much more remains to be achieved to reach the 10% target by 2020
- Malta has a more energy intensive economy than the EU average as measured by the consumption/GDP. Other measures of relative energy intensity show Malta below the average
- The importance of reducing energy intensity remains.

3. Results

Theme 6 – Environment and Risk Prevention

- Individual waste projects examined form part of an overall waste strategy in Malta
- Targets set of undertaking three waste projects has been achieved
- The number of landfills rehabilitated and liquid waste treatment plants constructed has met the OPI target



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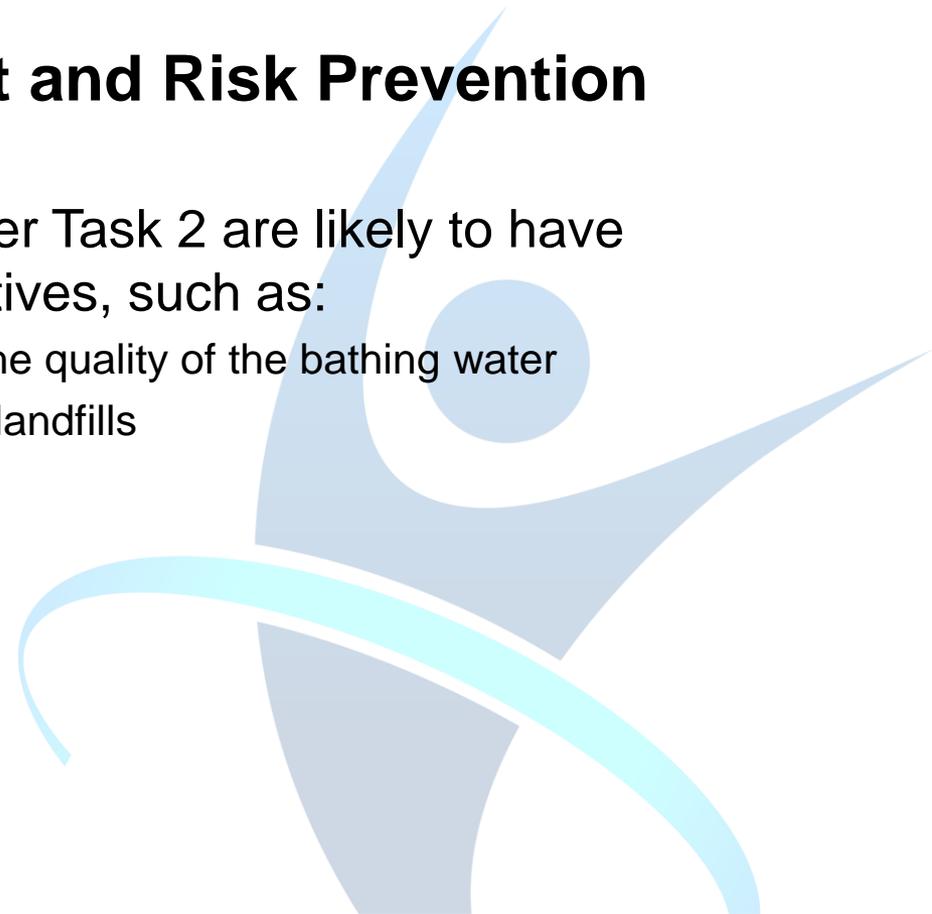
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3. Results

Theme 6 – Environment and Risk Prevention

- The waste projects examined under Task 2 are likely to have significant impacts on wider objectives, such as:
 - Tourism through the improvement of the quality of the bathing water
 - Land use through the rehabilitation of landfills



3. Results

Theme 6 – Environment and Risk Prevention

- Theme 6 projects appear in general to be performing well against OPI output targets
 - However, limited progress at present on land rehabilitation (53% of target)
 - Result indicators are likely to improve as implementation of different projects progresses



3. Results

Theme 7 – Health, Social, Education and E-accessibility

- Malta has a high rate of early school leavers and lower tertiary education participation
- OPI interventions cannot be disaggregated from policy changes and OPII
- OPI interventions appear to contribute towards improving education infrastructure but OPII interventions which are more training-focused address early school leavers and participation in tertiary education

3. Results

Theme 7 – Health, Social, Education and E-accessibility

- Many output indicators used to measure the progress of Theme 7 are close to or ahead of OPI overall targets
 - No of refurbished existing learning & training facilities at 116 (Target of 110)
 - Square metres of modernised learning and training facilities refurbished at 20,368m² (Target of 19,000m²)
- Significant progress on results indicators
 - Number of new services offered in the health sector at 8 (Target of 5)
 - Number of benefitting students at 62,996 (Target of 56,000)
 - % of patients using new/upgraded equipment/services at 100% (Target of 60%)

3. Results

Horizontal Priorities –

Equal Opportunities and Sustainable Development

Survey evidence with Project Leaders suggests:

- EO are being pursued for women, people with disabilities and people from the Gozo region in a number of projects
- Projects have mainly increased awareness and provided infrastructure
- Most projects in Task 2 contribute to SD as a secondary objective
- Competitiveness projects have a significant impact on energy efficiency
- Clear that care has been taken to design projects to reflect equal opportunities and to avoid adverse environmental and other sustainable development impacts

4. Recommendations

Recommendations on Indicators:

1. London Economics recommends revisions to the numerical targets to take account of statistical updates on baseline figures
2. Consideration should be given to developing selected new indicators which may better capture the overall benefits of the intervention and the contribution to wider policy objectives.
3. Refinement of some of the output indicators should be considered to take account of the scale as well as the number of projects or interventions assisted.
4. Additional resources should be allocated to ensure accurate and timely updates of all indicator data

4. Recommendations

Recommendations on HPs:

1. Elements of behavioural change towards better integration of HP objectives should be considered
2. London Economics recommends a consistent framework for monitoring the success of projects in terms of the HPs
3. Further training and support for project leaders with regard to the implementation of the HPs

4. Recommendations

Recommendations on Next Programming Period:

1. Measures to assist SMEs to develop scale and to penetrate export markets should be implemented.
2. Priority should be given to improving the energy intensity of the Maltese economy.
3. Additional resources are also likely to be required for investment and behavioural changes.
4. Investment in tourism to reduce seasonality is of key importance.
5. Changes in transport modalities to be prioritised.
6. Initiatives should be focused on enhancing resources in Malta whether in areas of human resources or improvements in infrastructure or knowledge.
7. There should be a very strong emphasis on measures which will leverage private sector investment and thus maximise the use of ESIF measures in order to maximise the impact of scarce EU funding, it is critical that investment is explicitly targeted at areas of identified market failure.

5. Progress and Next Steps

Way Forward:

- Tasks 3 will include update of the data, analysis, conclusions and recommendations of the results achieved
- Task 3 will also include a consolidation of the results achieved across the previous evaluations
- Task 3 will outline the lessons learned from OPI that could be mainstreamed and what actions/measures are being implemented further



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London Economics

6. CONTACT DETAILS

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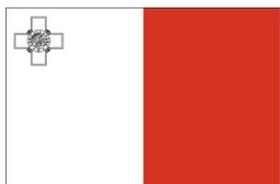
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Thank you!



Operational Programme I – Cohesion Policy 2007-2013
Investing in Competitiveness for a Better Quality of Life
Tender part-financed by the European Union
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund
Co-financing rate: 85% EU Funds; 15% National Funds



Investing in your future